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CHILLING

TALES OF HORROR

JUNE 1970

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 4



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The SPECTER'S REVENGE

DARED BY HIS FELLOW STUDENTS TO SPEND THE NIGHT IN THE DESERTED OLD HOUSE AT THE EDGE OF THE CEMETERY, JERRY HALTON BOASTED THAT HE WAS BELIEVE IN GHOSTS---THAT HE WAS AFRAID OF **NOTHING**! YET, BEFORE THE NIGHT WAS OVER, HE FOUND HIMSELF NOT ONLY PETRIFIED WITH HORROR, BUT COMMITTED TO CARRY OUT THE MURDEROUS PLANS OF **THE SPECTER'S REVENGE!**



IN FRONT OF THE CAMPUS STATUE OF BENEDICT T. HALTON, FOUNDER OF HALTON UNIVERSITY---

LISTEN, GUYS, IT'S HIGH TIME WE PROVED TO JERRY HALTON THAT HE'S NO BETTER THAN WE ARE!

YEAH, JUST BECAUSE HIS GRANDFATHER FOUNDED THE UNIVERSITY AND HIS OLD MAN IS PRESIDENT, JERRY THINKS HE'S KING OF THE CAMPUS!

HERE LIES MY DUST
DISTURB IT NOT.
FOR IF YE DO.
RETURN I MUST.

MAYBE IF WE **DID** DISTURB THE OLD BOY'S ASHES, JERRY'S GRANDFATHER WOULD COME BACK AND DO SOMETHING ABOUT HIS CONCEITED GRANDSON!

WAIT--- I'VE GOT A **REAL** IDEA! LISTEN---

LATER---

SAY, JERRY, WE'LL BET FIFTY BUCKS YOU DON'T HAVE NERVE ENOUGH TO SPEND THE NIGHT IN THAT OLD HOUSE IN THE CEMETERY!

IT'S A BET! I'M NOT AFRAID OF **ANYTHING** ---AND I DON'T BELIEVE IN GHOSTS! I'LL STAY THERE ALL NIGHT AND HAVE A GOOD SLEEP!

THAT'S WHAT **YOU** THINK!



THAT VERY NIGHT, AS PALE MOON-LIGHT SHEDS AN EERIE GLOW OVER THE OLD ABANDONED HOUSE AT THE EDGE OF THE CEMETERY---

PEOPLE SAY THAT TERRIBLE THINGS GO ON IN THAT HOUSE AT MIDNIGHT, JERRY! MAYBE YOU'D BETTER TURN BACK!

IF YOU THINK YOU CAN FRIGHTEN ME, YOU'RE WASTING YOUR TIME!



BUT, DESPITE HIS BRAVADO, JERRY'S HEART BEATS FASTER AS HIS LANTERN CASTS FLICKERING SHADOWS THAT SUGGEST THE SHAPES OF MONSTROUS EVIL WITHIN THE RAMSHACKLE BUILDING---

SURE IS DARK AND MUSTY IN HERE... LIKE A **TOMB!** AND GRAVE-DIGGERS' SHOVELS... **BRRR!**



THEN, WITHIN THE COBWEBBED GLOOM...

THINK I'LL LEAVE THE LANTERN BURNING AND KEEP MY KNIFE HANDY... IN... IN CASE THERE ARE ANY VICIOUS RATS AROUND!



A DISTANT CHURCH BELL TOLLS THE HOURS AWAY LIKE THE KNELL OF DOOM ITSELF... WHILE THE CREAKING FLOOR-BOARDS AND THE WIND MOANING THROUGH THE SHATTERED WINDOWS PREVENT ALL THOUGHT OF SLEEP! THEN, AT THE STROKE OF MIDNIGHT---

SOMETHING'S GONE WRONG WITH THE LANTERN... THE WHOLE ROOM'S FULL OF SMOKE! WHAT... WHAT'S THAT OVER THERE... THAT **SHAPE?** IS IT MY IMAGINATION... OR IS IT SOMETHING MOVING... SOMETHING **ALIVE?**



SUDDENLY... LIKE SOMETHING OUT OF A DEMON'S NIGHTMARE...

AH... YOU HAVE COME TO ME AT LAST, JERRY!

WHO... OR... OR WHAT... ARE YOU?



I AM YOUR UNCLE JOHN, JERRY... YOUR FATHER'S BROTHER WHO DISGRACED THE FAMILY!

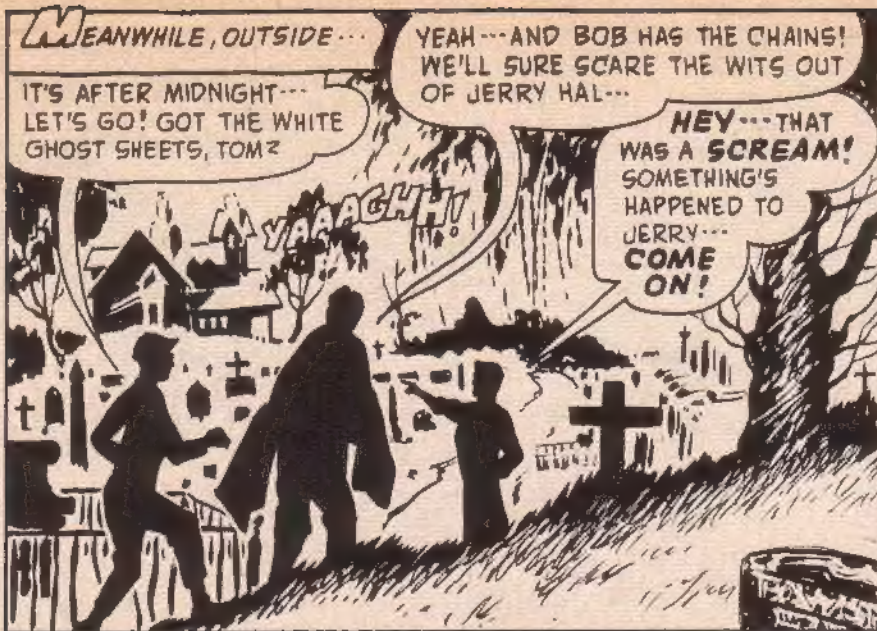
YOU... YOU **CAN'T BE!** UNCLE JOHN DIED BEFORE I WAS BORN! BUT **WHATEVER** YOU ARE, I... I'LL **DRIVE** YOU AWAY!



MY... MY **KNIFE**... IT PASSED RIGHT **THROUGH** YOU... AS IF THROUGH THIN AIR!

OF COURSE, NEPHEW... I'M A **BODILESS SPECTER!** DON'T TRY TO RESIST ME... YOU AND I ARE GOING TO BE GOOD FRIENDS! YOU'RE EVEN GOING TO DO ME A FAVOR... BY COMMITTING A SLIGHT CASE OF **MURDER!**





MEANWHILE, OUTSIDE...
IT'S AFTER MIDNIGHT...
LET'S GO! GOT THE WHITE
GHOST SHEETS, TOM?

YEAH---AND BOB HAS THE CHAINS!
WE'LL SURE SCARE THE WITS OUT
OF JERRY HAL---

HEY---THAT
WAS A SCREAM!
SOMETHING'S
HAPPENED TO
JERRY---
COME ON!



HE'S OUT COLD---AND I CAN'T BRING
HIM TO! WE'D BETTER GET HIM TO THE
CAMPUS INFIRMARY!



HALF AN HOUR LATER...

HOW'S MY
SON, DOCTOR?

HE'S CONSCIOUS
NOW, MR. HALTON
---BUT HE'S APPARENTLY
RECEIVED A SEVERE
EMOTIONAL SHOCK!
HE KEEPS SAYING
THAT HE SAW THE
GHOST OF HIS
UNCLE JOHN! I'VE
GIVEN HIM A SEDATIVE
TO KEEP HIM
QUIET!



BUT HOURS LATER...

JERRY---I
HAVE COME
BACK!

THAT---
THAT AWFUL,
HOLLOW
VOICE
AGAIN!



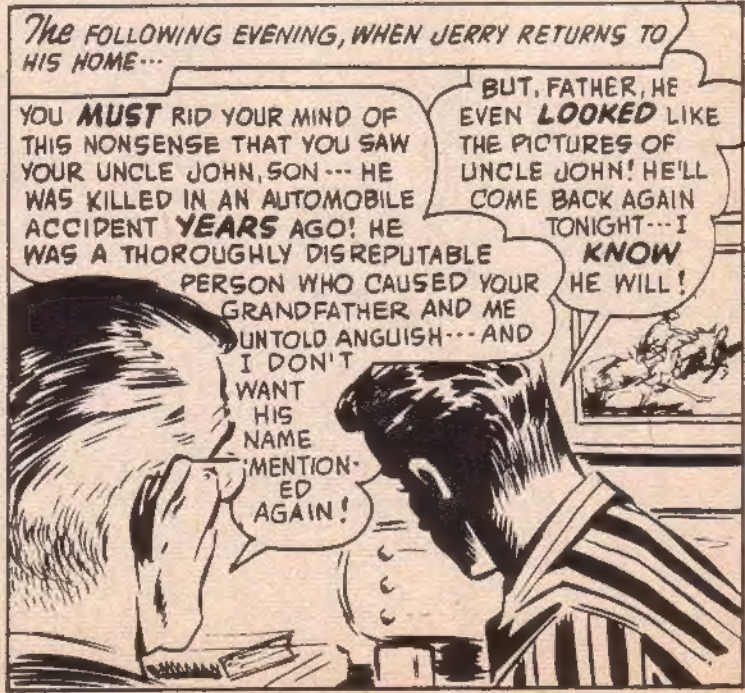
YOU HAVE FREED ME, JERRY
---AND NOW YOU WILL KILL
FOR ME! YOU HAVE TO...
YOU CANNOT
ESCAPE ME!

GO
AWAY!
HELP!



IT---IT CAME AGAIN! I'VE GOT TO GET
--- AWAY!

NOW---NOW---
YOU'VE JUST
HAD A NIGHTMARE!
BACK TO BED WITH
YOU AND I'LL GIVE
YOU ANOTHER
SEDATIVE!



The FOLLOWING EVENING, WHEN JERRY RETURNS TO
HIS HOME---

YOU **MUST** RID YOUR MIND OF
THIS NONSENSE THAT YOU SAW
YOUR UNCLE JOHN, SON--- HE
WAS KILLED IN AN AUTOMOBILE
ACCIDENT **YEARS** AGO! HE
WAS A THOROUGHLY DISREPUTABLE
PERSON WHO CAUSED YOUR
GRANDFATHER AND ME
UNTOLD ANGUISH---AND
I DON'T
WANT
HIS NAME
MENTION-
ED
AGAIN!

BUT, FATHER, HE
EVEN **LOOKED** LIKE
THE PICTURES OF
UNCLE JOHN! HE'LL
COME BACK AGAIN
TONIGHT---I
KNOW
HE WILL!



DON'T BE RIDICULOUS...THERE ARE NO SUCH THINGS AS SPECTERS AND GHOSTS! BUT IF IT WILL MAKE YOU FEEL ANY BETTER, I'LL SIT HERE ALL NIGHT...NOW GO TO SLEEP, JERRY!



AT MID-NIGHT STRIKES AND JERRY'S FATHER DROPS OFF TO SLEEP...

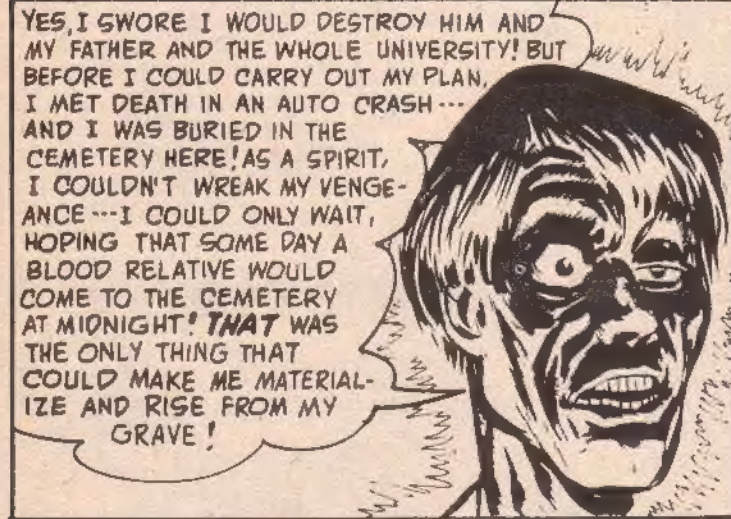
OH... YOU AGAIN!

I TOLD YOU YOU COULD NOT ESCAPE ME, JERRY! NOW YOU WILL HELP ME GET MY REVENGE...MY LONG-AWAITED REVENGE...ON YOUR FATHER!

IN A VOICE DRIPPING WITH DEMONIAL HATRED...



WE WENT TO THIS COLLEGE TOGETHER, YOUR FATHER AND I... BUT HE WAS A BRILLIANT STUDENT, WHILE I WAS THE BLACK-SHEEP! I DRANK AND FORGED CHECKS AND GOT AWAY WITH IT BECAUSE I WAS THE PRESIDENT'S SON! BUT ONE NIGHT I NEEDED MONEY, AND YOUR FATHER CAUGHT ME IN THE ACT OF BREAKING INTO THE COLLEGE SAFE! HE EXPOSED ME, GOT ME EXPELLED...AND I SWORE I WOULD GET REVENGE ON HIM SOME DAY!



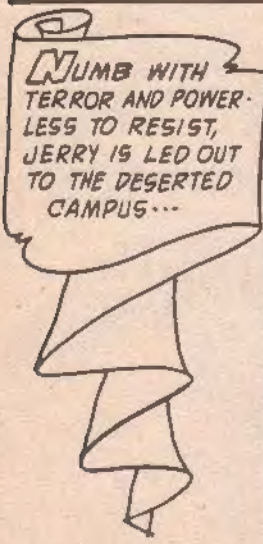
YES, I SWORE I WOULD DESTROY HIM AND MY FATHER AND THE WHOLE UNIVERSITY! BUT BEFORE I COULD CARRY OUT MY PLAN, I MET DEATH IN AN AUTO CRASH... AND I WAS BURIED IN THE CEMETERY HERE! AS A SPIRIT, I COULDN'T WREAK MY VENGEANCE...I COULD ONLY WAIT, HOPING THAT SOME DAY A BLOOD RELATIVE WOULD COME TO THE CEMETERY AT MIDNIGHT! THAT WAS THE ONLY THING THAT COULD MAKE ME MATERIALIZE AND RISE FROM MY GRAVE!



THEN YOU CAME, JERRY...AND NOW YOU WILL CARRY OUT MY SCHEME! MY FATHER IS ALREADY DEAD AND HIS ASHES REPOSE IN THAT MONUMENT ON THE CAMPUS...AND IT WON'T BE LONG BEFORE YOUR FATHER PERISHES IN THE RUINS OF THE UNIVERSITY!

COME... FOLLOW ME!

IT...IT'S AS IF HE'S HYPNOTIZED ME, PARALYZING MY WILL!...YES... I...I WILL FOLLOW YOU!



NUMB WITH TERROR AND POWERLESS TO RESIST, JERRY IS LED OUT TO THE DESERTED CAMPUS...

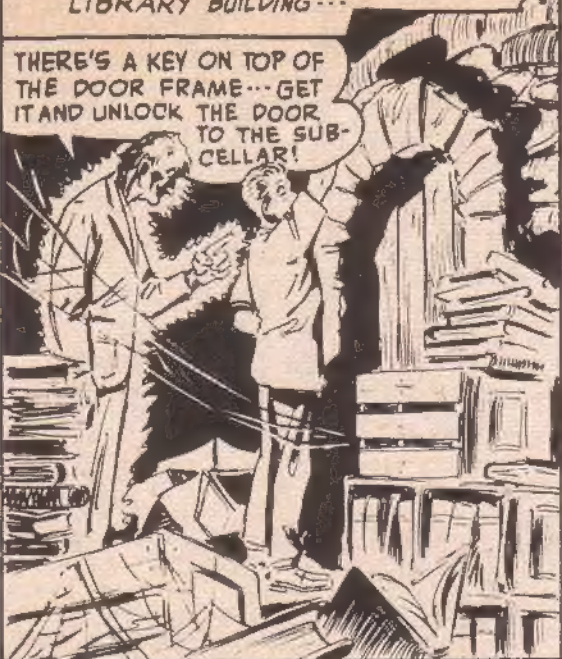


YOU WILL OBEY ME! YOU WILL NOT CRY OUT FOR HELP... AND YOU WILL NOT GO NEAR THAT STATUE OF MY FATHER!

HALTON LIBRARY BUILDING

MINUTES LATER, IN THE BASEMENT OF THE LIBRARY BUILDING---

THERE'S A KEY ON TOP OF THE DOOR FRAME---GET IT AND UNLOCK THE DOOR TO THE SUB-CELLAR!



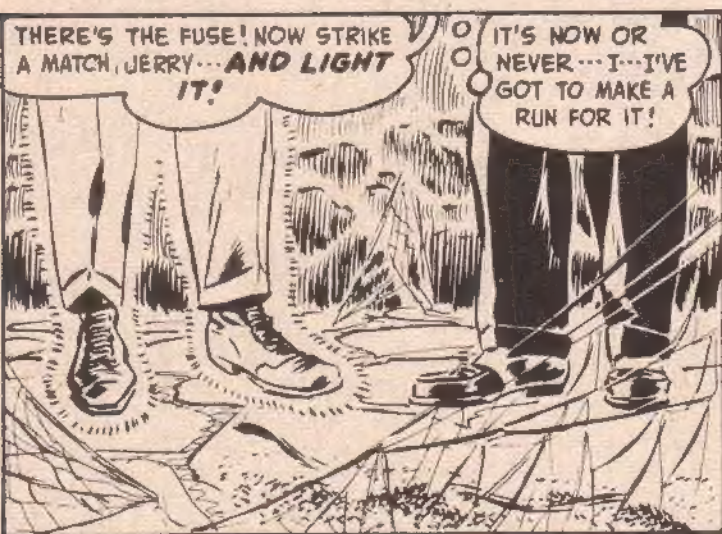
AH---THE ROOM HASN'T BEEN ENTERED SINCE I LEFT IT! BEFORE I DIED, I WORKED HARD FOR MANY WEEKS SMUGGLING IN BOX AFTER BOX OF DYNAMITE UNTIL I HAD ENOUGH TO BLOW THE WHOLE UNIVERSITY---AND YOUR FATHER---OFF THE FACE OF THE EARTH! AND NOW YOU WILL SET THE EXPLOSIVES OFF, JERRY!

THAT---THAT WOULD BE **MURDER** --- AND **SUICIDE** FOR ME! THIS CREEP DOESN'T KNOW IT YET, BUT I'VE JUST BROKEN OUT OF HIS HYPNOTIC SPELL --- BECAUSE NO HYPNOTIZED SUBJECT CAN BE MADE TO DESTROY HIMSELF!



THERE'S THE FUSE! NOW STRIKE A MATCH, JERRY---AND LIGHT IT!

IT'S NOW OR NEVER---I---I'VE GOT TO MAKE A RUN FOR IT!



COME BACK HERE!



AS A SPIRIT, I HAVE NO CONTROL OVER MATERIAL OBJECTS, EXCEPT THE KINSMAN WHO CAUSED ME TO MATERIALIZE! SO ALTHOUGH I CAN'T LIGHT THE FUSE, I CAN **FORCE YOU** TO DO IT!

GASP!... **STOP!** I---I'LL LIGHT IT!



HIS---HIS GRIP IS AS ICY AND UNSHAKEABLE AS DEATH ITSELF --- I--- I CAN'T BREAK AWAY!



5-5-5
RUN, JERRY... I'LL SPARE YOUR LIFE FOR HELPING ME! BUT IF YOU HAVE ANY IDEA OF WAKING UP YOUR FATHER... **THERE WON'T BE TIME!**

SOBING, ALMOST CRAZY WITH TERROR, JERRY RACES ACROSS THE DESERTED CAMPUS!

IF... ONLY **SOMEBODY** COULD HELP ME STOP THIS AWFUL THING FROM HAPPENING!

WAIT... GRANDFATHER MUST HAVE HAD **SOME** REASON FOR WANTING THOSE WORDS CARVED ON HIS MONUMENT! IF HE **COULD** COME BACK... **REALLY** COME **BACK**...!

HERE LIES MY DUST,
DISTURB IT NOT,
FOR IF YE DO,
RETURN I MUST.

THAT TRUCK! IT SHOULD BE POWERFUL ENOUGH TO OVERTURN THE STATUE... **AND DISTURB GRANDFATHER'S ASHES!**

MOMENTS LATER, AS JERRY SENDS THE TRUCK HURLING TOWARD THE MONUMENT...

STOP THAT!

SO... YOU WANTED TO BRING YOUR GRANDFATHER'S SPIRIT BACK BY DISTURBING HIS DUST, EH? WELL... **IT WON'T HAPPEN!**

HE WAS TOO LATE... **IT DID HAPPEN!**

CRASH!

INSTANTLY...

HOLY COW!
ANOTHER
SPECTER---
GRAND-
FATHER'S!



I JUST REMEMBERED
--- THE **FUSE!** I'VE GOT TO
STAMP IT OUT BEFORE IT
REACHES THE DYNAMITE!
IT WAS A LONG FUSE---
**BUT WILL THERE STILL
BE TIME?**



GRANDFATHER CAME BACK, AS HE
PROMISED---AND HE'S DRIVING
UNCLE JOHN'S SPECTER
AWAY!



AFTER A MAD RACE BACK TO THE LIBRARY
BUILDING...

IT---IT'S
ALMOST AT THE
DYNAMITE!



**MADE
IT!**



NEXT MORNING---

GREAT SCOTT! SOME IDIOT DROVE
A TRUCK INTO THE MONUMENT LAST NIGHT
---KNOCKED IT OFF CENTER!

REALLY?



WHAT WITH **YOU** CARRYING ON
ABOUT YOUR UNCLE JOHN'S
GHOST, AND NOW **THIS**---
IT'LL BE THE **DEATH**
OF ME YET!

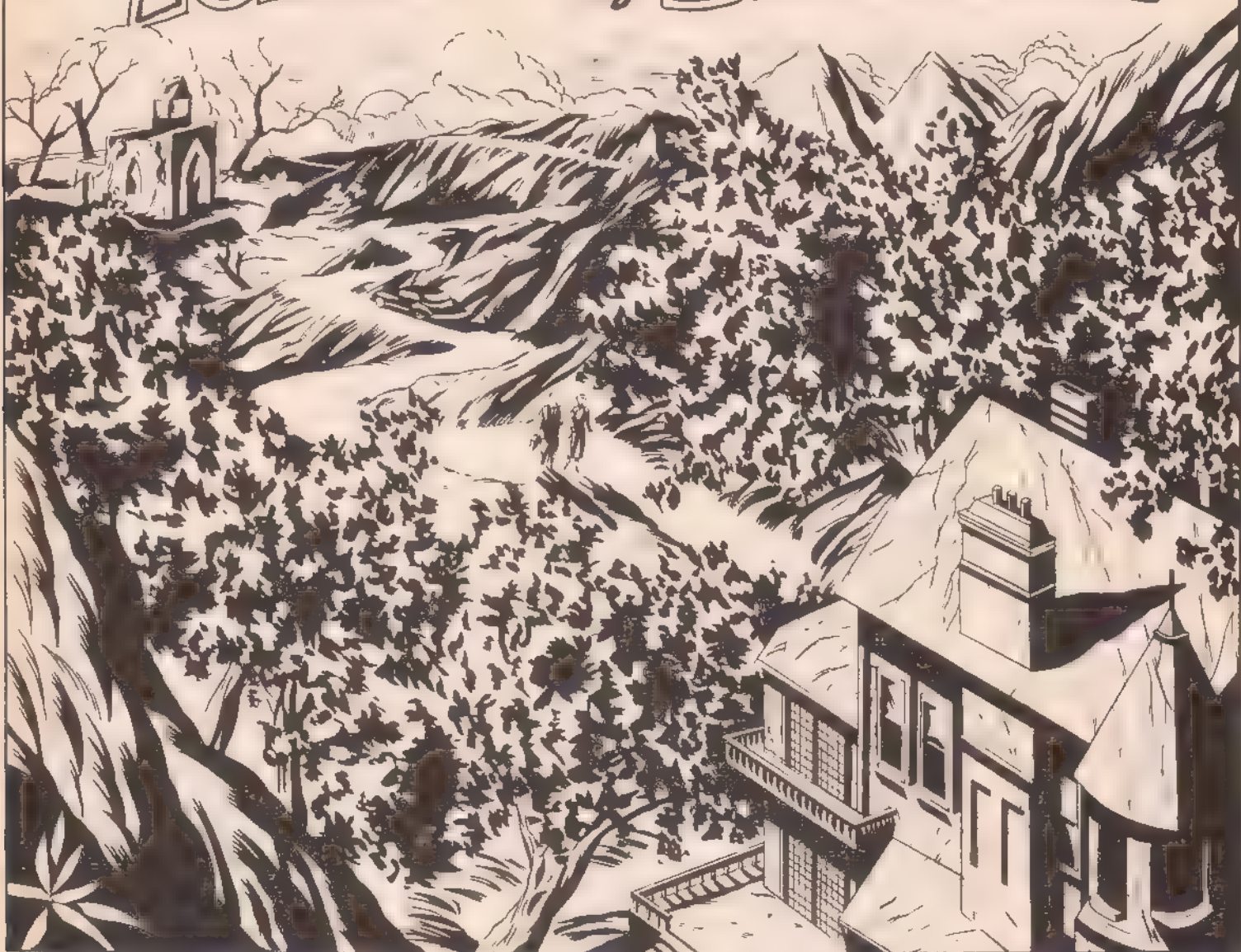
IT ALMOST
WAS, FATHER
---IT ALMOST
WAS!



THE END!

LATE ONE AFTERNOON-- TWO FIGURES MADE THEIR WAY ALONG A ROAD WINDING ACROSS A HUSHED AND FORBIDDING COUNTRYSIDE ' BEHIND THEM ROSE AN ANCIENT CHURCH, STANDING LIKE A LONELY MOURNER OVER ITS UNTENDED GRAVES -- AHEAD, A HOUSE MANTLED BY IVY THAT RUSTLED IN THE TWILIGHT ! AND SOMEWHERE BETWEEN THE CHURCH AND THE HOUSE -- SOMEWHERE BETWEEN LIFE AND UNHOLY DEATH-- WAS...

The *TOMB* of the UNSEEN



IN A CHAMBER THAT SEEMED TO HARBOR THE SHADOWS OF THE COMING NIGHT--

STRANGE! CAN THAT BE SOME-ONE AT THE DOOR--HERE?



GOOD EVENING! WE'RE IN TROUBLE-- MAY WE USE THE PHONE?

THE NEAREST PHONE IS MILES AWAY! BUT COME IN-- IS THERE ANY WAY I CAN HELP YOU?



I'M **JIM HARRIS**, AN INDUSTRIAL ENGINEER-- AND THIS IS **TRUDY JONES**, MY SECRETARY! WE'RE DRIVING TO A NEW FACTORY UP-STATE, BUT MY STEERING GEAR BROKE DOWN ABOUT A HALF-MILE FROM HERE-- NEAR AN OLD CHURCH!



YES, I KNOW THE SPOT WELL! AND I'M AFRAID YOU AND MISS JONES WILL HAVE HAD YOUR FILL OF IT BEFORE YOU'RE ABLE TO LEAVE HERE!

YOUR ONLY CHANCE OF GETTING HELP IS THE HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE TRUCK, WHICH WILL PASS THROUGH HERE ABOUT TWO DAYS FROM NOW! MEANWHILE, THE HOUSE HAS SEVERAL UNUSED ROOMS-- AND IF YOU AREN'T THE NERVOUS TYPES, I'D BE GLAD TO HAVE YOU STAY HERE!



GUESS YOU CAN COUNT ON A COUPLE OF GUESTS! JUST WHAT MAKES YOU THINK WE'D BE ANY MORE NERVOUS THAN-- YOU, FOR EXAMPLE?

MY NAME IS **BRAXTON**-- AND I'M AN ARCHITECT WITH A LONG INTEREST IN THINGS THAT ARE OLD AND UNUSUAL! I FIND MYSELF AT HOME WITH LEGENDS-- AND THE THINGS THAT ARE SAID TO GROW OUT OF LEGENDS!



ARE THERE ANY LEGENDS ABOUT **THIS** DISTRICT, MR. **BRAXTON**-- MAYBE EXPLAINING WHY NO ONE LIVES HERE?



THERE IS A QUAINST STORY, YOUNG LADY-- AND IT DEALS WITH THE **TOMB OF THE UNSEEN!**

THE DEAD ARE SAID TO PACE THAT ROAD-- LED BY THE **UNSEEN**-- A BEING WITH NEITHER FACE NOR FORM! AND AWAITING THEM AT THE CHURCH IS THE GHOST OF AN OLD VICAR-- WHO HAUNTS THE EMPTY GRAVE-YARD!



VERY INTERESTING, **BRAXTON**! BUT WHERE DOES THE **TOMB OF THE UNSEEN** FIT INTO THIS GRISLY SETUP?



THAT WOULD BE VERY DIFFICULT TO SAY! YOU SEE -- NO ONE HAS EVER FOUND IT!

AN HOUR LATER-- WITH THE MOONLIGHT LIKE A MISTY VEIL--

I WOULDN'T TAKE THAT STORY TOO SERIOUSLY, HONEY! **BRAXTON** SPENDS A LOT OF TIME BY HIMSELF-- AND IT'S POSSIBLE HE DREAMED UP THE WHOLE THING!

JIM-- LOOK! IF THERE AREN'T ANY PEOPLE AROUND HERE-- WHO ARE THEY?



THEY WOULD ANSWER-- IF THEY HAD VOICES-- OR LIFE! BUT WITH A PALLOR AND A PLODDING THAT BEAR THE STAMP OF DEATH --



GOOD HEAVENS--
THEY'RE NOT
PEOPLE!

THEY'RE CORPSES,
JIM-- WALKING
CORPSES! DO
SOMETHING--
CALL
BRAXTON!

HE'S NOT THERE, TRUDY!
I SAW HIM JUST A
SECOND AGO-- BUT
HE'S GONE!



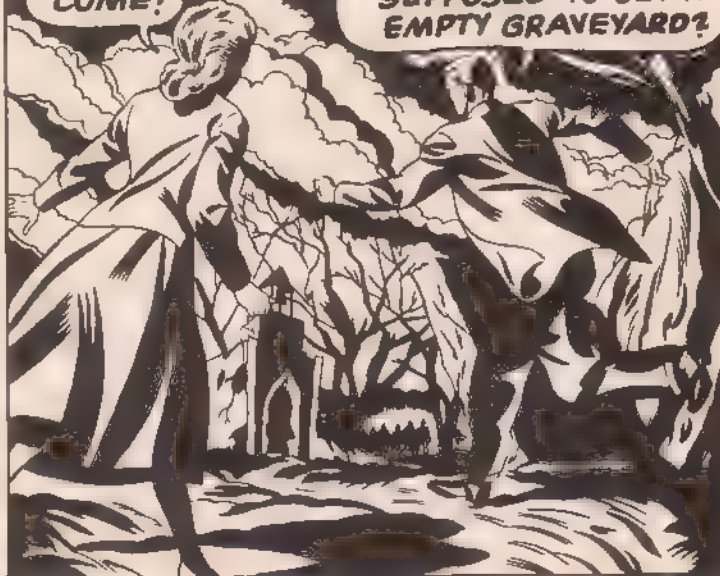
NOW I CAN SEE
WHAT'S BEHIND
BRAXTON'S CASUAL
MANNER! HE'D
GO INSANE IF
HE ADMITTED
HIS TERROR--
BUT WHEN THEY
APPEAR-- HE
RUSHES SOME-
WHERE TO HIDE!

IN THAT CASE-- I'M A FAR
LESS NERVOUS TYPE THAN HE!
LET'S GET TO THE BOTTOM
OF WHAT BRAXTON CALLS A
LEGEND, TRUDY-- LET'S
HURRY TO THE CHURCH-
YARD AHEAD OF THOSE
CREEPS!



JIM-- I HOPE WE'RE
NOT GOING TO
REGRET THIS!
THERE THEY
COME!

YEP-- THAT'S WHAT I'M
WONDERING ABOUT! WHY
WOULD THE UNDEAD BE
INTERESTED IN WHAT'S
SUPPOSED TO BE AN
EMPTY GRAVEYARD?



A MOMENT LATER--

THERE'S NOTHING
TO BE AFRAID OF,
HONEY -- I'M
PRETTY SURE
THEY DON'T
KNOW WE'RE
WATCHING
THEM!

BUT I'VE GOT
THE AWFUL
FEELING
SOMETHING
ELSE IS
WATCHING THEM--
AND THAT IT'S
CLOSE TO US!

SUDDENLY-- CURDLING THE DARK-
NESS WITH A BLOTCH OF HORROR--

YE GOOS,
TRUDY--
GET BACK!



OHH! IT'S THAT
HIDEOUS PHANTOM
BRAXTON DESCRIBED
-- THE UNSEEN!

HAA!
FULL
WELL
YOU
KNOW ME
-- AND FULL
WELL I KNOW
WHAT
BROUGHT
YOU
HERE!



AS THE DREAD SHAPE REARS
HIGHER ABOVE THE
TOMBSTONES--

YOU SEEK MY REST-
ING PLACE -- THE
TOMB OF THE
UNSEEN! BUT
DO YOU THINK
THE LIVING CAN
FIND IT-- WHEN
AN AVENGING
GHOST HAS
FAILED?



A DAZZLING FLASH--AND THE
DEFILED AIR HOLDS NOTHING
BUT THE PHANTOM'S
MOCKING TERROR--



HAA! HA!
HAAA!

GOOD HEAVENS!
NOW THERE ISN'T
A SIGN OF EITHER
THE UNDEAD
OR THAT
GHASTLY
ZOMBIE--
THEY'VE
VANISHED!

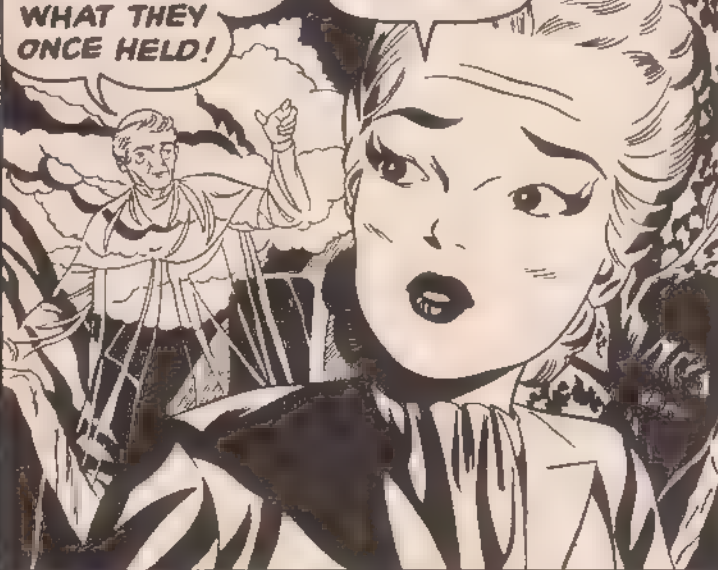
THOSE SUNKEN
GRAVES SEEM
UNDISTURBED--
THEY'RE SUP-
POSED TO BE
UNOCCUPIED--
**BUT I
WONDER!**



THEN--WITH A VOICE SOFT AS MUTED FOOTFALLS--

EMPTY-- EMPTY!
THESE GRAVES
HAVE YIELDED
WHAT THEY
ONCE HELD!

JIM-- IT'S
ANOTHER
PHANTOM!



THERE'S NOTHING TO
BE AFRAID OF THIS
TIME, TRUDY-- IT'S
THE GHOSTLY
VICAR BRAXTON
MENTIONED!

BUT WHAT'S IT DOING
HERE? IF THERE'S NOTHING
IN THESE GRAVES-- WHY
SHOULD THE CHURCHYARD
BE HAUNTED?



THERE IS WHERE MY SPIRIT WISHES TO BE--
INSIDE THE CHURCH IN WHICH I PREACHED--
UNTIL MY DEATH A HUNDRED YEARS AGO! BUT
I MUST DENY MYSELF ETERNAL PEACE--
UNTIL I FIND THE TOMB OF THE UNSEEN!
THAT IS MY FATE-- BECAUSE THE DEAD

WHO ONCE RESTED
BENEATH THESE
STONES WERE
DOOMED
BY ME!



BUT HOW?
SOMETHING
MUST HAVE
HAPPENED--
BUT WHY
ARE YOU
TAKING THE
BLAME?

BECAUSE-- ONCE A ZOMBIE
FEIGNS DEATH, AND IS EN-
TOMBED IN A HALLOWED SPOT
--THE BURIED ONES BELONG TO
HIM! IF I HAD BEEN MORE
VIGILANT, I WOULD HAVE DE-
TECTED HIS EVIL PRESENCE--
I WOULD HAVE SAVED THE
DEAD-- AND DESTROYED
THE FIEND BY THE POWER
OF THE HOLY WORD!



BUT THE ZOMBIE'S PHANTOM WAS HERE TONIGHT! COULDN'T YOU HAVE FOLLOWED IT TO THE SECRET TOMB?

THE WAY IS BARRED, EVEN TO ME-- BY THE FLASH OF EVIL INTO WHICH THEY VANISH! AND EVEN IF I FIND THE TOMB-- THE HOLY WORD MUST BE USED AGAINST A NAME-- AND WHO CAN NAME THE UNSEEN?



THESE ANCIENT GRAVES CAN BE NO REFUGE FOR THEM--NOW THAT THE CHURCHYARD HAS BEEN EXORCIZED FOR EVIL SPIRITS! BUT SOMEWHERE THEY LURK-- STILL IN HALLOWED GROUND-- PRO-FANED BY THE TOMB OF THE UNSEEN!

THE GHOST IS LEAVING US, JIM-- IT'S STARTING TO FADE!



A MOMENT LATER--

WE MIGHT AS WELL RETURN TO BRAXTON'S PLACE, TRUDY! NO USE WAKING HIM UP AT THIS HOUR-- BUT IN THE MORNING I'M GOING TO TAKE A STAB AT HIS REASON FOR HIDING! SUPPOSE DURING HIS RESEARCH HE STUMBLED UPON A GHASTLY SECRET-- THE LOCATION OF THE HALLOWED GROUND THAT SHELTERS THE TOMB OF THE UNSEEN!



NEXT DAY--

IT'S NOT A QUESTION OF ACKNOWLEDGING THIS HORROR, BRAXTON-- YOU ACTUALLY LIVE WITH IT! WHY DON'T YOU UN-BURDEN YOURSELF -- AND TELL ME WHAT YOU KNOW?

YOU WOULD NOT LIKE TO SHARE WHAT I KNOW, MY FRIEND! YOU CALL IT HORROR-- AND THAT SHOULD TELL YOU IT IS BEST LEFT ALONE!



HE'S RIGHT, JIM! WHY MEDDLE WITH EVIL?

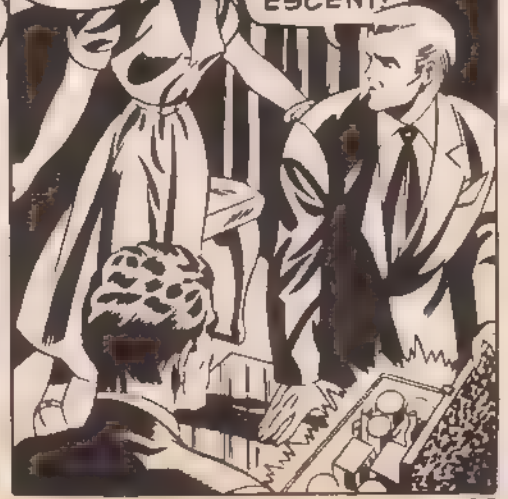
JUST STUBBORN CURIOSITY, HONEY-- A HABIT I FORMED DOING RESEARCH WORK!

AH, YES-- I FORGOT YOU'RE AN ENGINEER, HARRIS! PERHAPS THAT EXPLAINS YOUR SPECIAL INTEREST IN THE TOMB OF THE UNSEEN!

COULD BE! BUT JUST TO GET AWAY FROM THIS CREEPY BUSINESS FOR A WHILE, BRAXTON-- MAYBE YOU'D LIKE TO SEE MY EQUIPMENT!

UNEXPECTEDLY-- AS JIM OPENS HIS EQUIPMENT KIT-- GOOD HEAVENS, JIM-- WHAT'S CAUSING THAT EERIE GLOW?

MY GOSH-- I DON'T KNOW! IT CAN'T BE ANYTHING IN THE BAG-- BECAUSE NONE OF THAT STUFF IS PHOSPHORESCENT!



SO DO I.. BUT
BRAXTON WAS
IGHT ' WE WERE
AGAINST HOR-
-- SOMETHING
GANE PERSON
ULD TRY TO

HA HA HA!

JIM.. I'VE HEARD THAT HIDEOUS LAUGH BEFORE.. IT'S THE UNSEEN!

YE GODS.. LET GO! MY FOOT'S SLIPPED-- WE'RE PICKING UP SPEED!

A black and white comic book illustration showing a car stuck in a swampy, wooded area. The car is partially submerged in the mud, with its front end tilted upwards. A speech bubble coming from the car reads "TRUDY-- JUMP!". The scene is filled with dense foliage, trees, and a body of water in the background. The style is reminiscent of mid-20th-century comic book art.



WHEN JIM REVIVES--
GREAT GUNS-- IT'S
COMPLETELY DARK!
I MUST HAVE
BEEN KNOCKED
OUT FOR A GOOD
HALF HOUR!

YOU HAD ME WORRIED,
DARLING! BUT I COULDN'T
RETURN TO BRAXTON'S
FOR HELP-- LEAVING
YOU DAZED AND ALONE
IN A PLACE LIKE
THIS!



GUESS THE CAR'S
CONKED OUT FOR GOOD
-- AFTER HITTING
WITH ENOUGH FORCE
TO UNCOVER THAT
OLD CORNERSTONE!

THERE SEEM TO BE
FAINT LETTERS CARVED
ON IT! WONDER WHAT
THEY MEAN?



MEDIEVAL CHURCH BUILDERS
ALWAYS INSCRIBED THEIR
NAMES! CAN YOU
MAKE IT OUT?

BELIEVE IT
OR NOT-- IT'S
BRAXTON!

THAT MAKES **ONE** THING CLEAR
IN THIS ODD BUSINESS! NO WON-
DER BRAXTON'S INTERESTED
IN HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURE
-- WHEN IT'S OBVIOUS THAT
ONE OF HIS
ANCESTORS
BUILT THIS
ANCIENT
CHURCH!

YEP-- THAT'S
THE LIKELIEST
EXPLANATION!
ON THE OTHER
HAND-- THERE
MAY BE
**ANOTHER
REASON!**

I SUPPOSE WE'LL HAVE TO RETURN
TO BRAXTON'S-- BUT I WON'T PAR-
TICULARLY MIND! THE NAME ON
THE CORNERSTONE WILL GIVE US
SOMETHING TO TALK ABOUT--
INSTEAD OF
CONCENTRA-
TING ON THE
**TOMB OF
THE UN-
SEEN!**

GOOD THING MY
SUITCASE WASN'T
DAMAGED--
**I'VE JUST
REMEMBERED
SOMETHING!**



JIM HARRIS--
WHAT ON EARTH
ARE YOU GOING
TO DO WITH THAT
**CALCIUM
SULPHIDE?**

JUST REACHING FOR AN
IDEA-- **ABOUT THAT WEIRD
GLOW WE NOTICED AT
BRAXTON'S! MAYBE WE
WILL GO BACK, LATER--
BUT RIGHT NOW, WE'RE
WAITING!**

AS THE DARKNESS DEEPENS-- AND A MUFFLED
STIRRING COMES FROM SOMEWHERE INSIDE THE
CHURCH-- LIKE THE SHUFFLE OF HIDDEN
FOOTSTEPS--

LOOK-- SOME-
THING'S GOING
INTO THE
CHURCH!

I FIGURED THERE **WOULD
BE!** YOU WANT TO WAIT
HERE, TRUDY-- OR SHALL
WE FOLLOW THAT THING
TOGETHER?



I'M SCARED-- BUT I KNOW THERE'S NOTHING EVIL ABOUT THE VICAR'S GHOST!

THIS ISN'T THE VICAR, TRUDY! HOW CAN IT BE-- WHEN HIS GHOST NEVER ENTERS THE CHURCH?



GOOD HEAVENS -- IT... IT'S THE UN-SEEN!



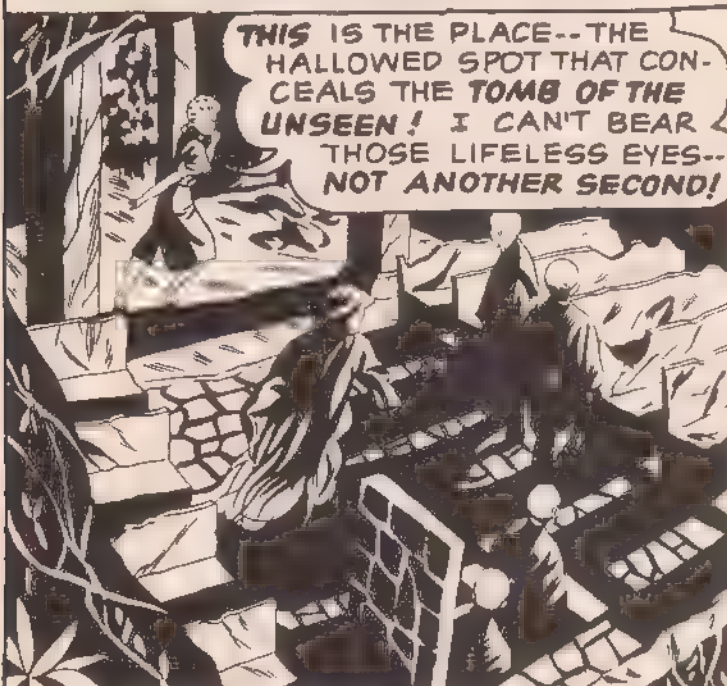
SHH! LET'S SEE IF WE CAN'T LEARN THAT CREEP'S SECRET-- ONCE AND FOR ALL!

AS AN EVIL INCANTATION DRONES THROUGH THE ANCIENT ARCHES--

RISE, RISE FROM HALLOWED GROUND!
LET YOUR UNDEAD FOOTSTEPS SOUND!



THEN -- IN PLODDING RANKS OF DREAD--



THIS IS THE PLACE-- THE HALLOWED SPOT THAT CONCEALS THE TOMB OF THE UNSEEN! I CAN'T BEAR THOSE LIFELESS EYES-- NOT ANOTHER SECOND!

THEY'RE AFTER US! AND WITHOUT A CAR-- IT DOESN'T LOOK GOOD!



SOMETHING DARK IS MOVING AMONG THE TOMBSTONES-- AND THIS TIME I'M SURE IT'S THE VICAR'S GHOST!

YOU CAN WARD OFF THOSE THINGS! FOR THE LOVE OF HEAVEN-- HELP US!



THEY HAVE BEEN THERE ALL THESE YEARS-- INSIDE MY CHURCH-- THE VERY SPOT I VOWED NEVER TO APPROACH! I HAVE FOUND THE TOMB OF THE UNSEEN-- BUT THE HOLY WORD CANNOT DESTROY A FIEND THAT REMAINS UNNAMED!

I'VE LEARNED ONE THING-- CALCIUM SULPHIDE GLOWS IN THE PRESENCE OF A SUPERNATURAL BODY! AND WHEN A SEALED BOX CAN PRODUCE A DEFINITE REACTION-- SOMETHING'S BOUND TO HAPPEN WHEN THE UNSEEN COMES INTO CONTACT WITH THE CHEMICAL ITSELF!



A SILVERY SPRAY GLINTS IN THE MOONLIGHT-- AND AS THE UNDEAD STOP SHORT--

YOU'VE GOT ANOTHER FORM, UNSEEN-- A BODILY SHAPE YOU'VE GOT TO ASSUME--TO ESCAPE THIS!



THE GHOSTLY OUTLINE QUIVERS WITH A SPASM OF LIFE-- AND THE BLACK VOID BECOMES A FACE-- BLIGHTED BY EVIL!

UNDEAD... UNDEAD... DON'T-- LET THEM--



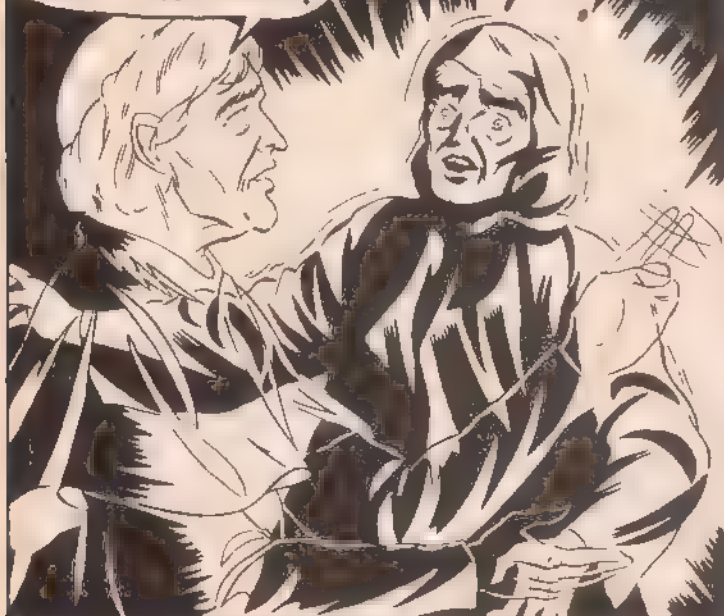
THERE IT IS--THE DEMON WHO BUILT THE CHURCH CENTURIES AGO-- TO PROVIDE ITSELF WITH A HIDING-PLACE! DO YOU RECOGNIZE IT-- CAN YOU NAME IT?

ECCE SIGNUM DOMINI-- EXORCIZO TE--



BY THE SIGN OF THE LORD, I EXORCIZE YOU-- BRAXTON!

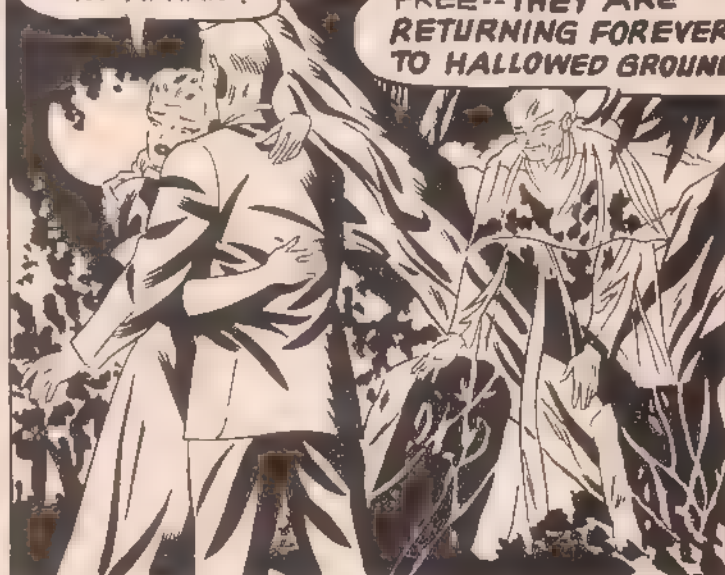
AAAGHHH!



IN THE NEXT SECOND--

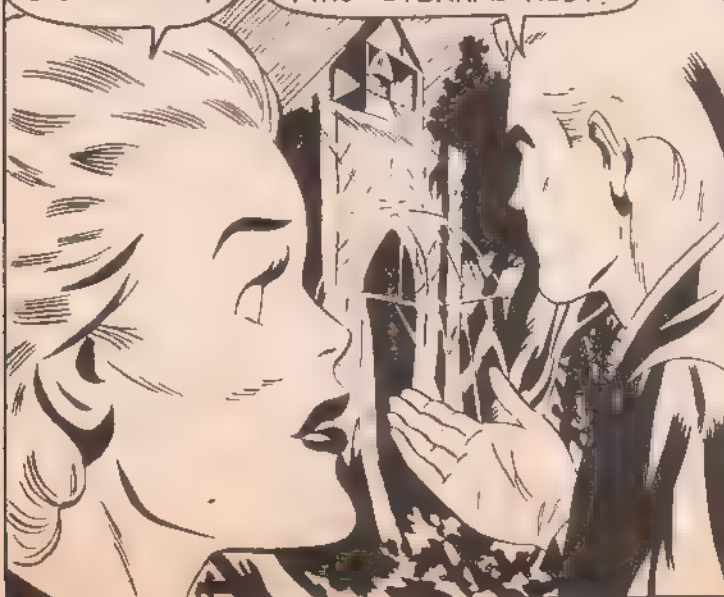
THE GRAVES--THEY'RE QUIVERING AND HEAVING ALL AROUND US! JIM-- I'M AFRAID!

RAISE YOUR HEAD, MY DAUGHTER--THERE IS NOTHING TO FEAR! THE UNDEAD ARE FREE--THEY ARE RETURNING FOREVER TO HALLOWED GROUND!



LOOK, JIM-- THE VICAR'S GHOST IS STARTING TO DISAPPEAR!

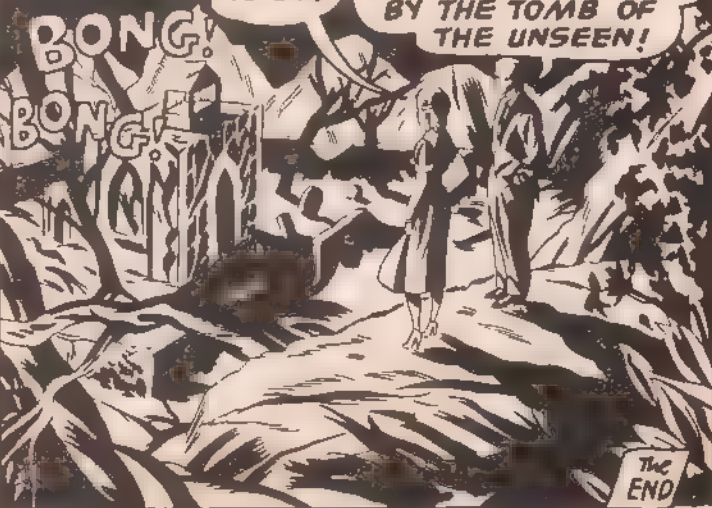
IT TOOK FORM FOR ONLY ONE PURPOSE, HONEY! NOW THE LONG VIGIL IS ENDED-- AND IT CAN FIND ETERNAL REST!



A MOMENT LATER-- SOUNDING OVER THE PEACEFUL CHURCHYARD AND THE NIGHT-BOUND HILLS BEYOND--

THE CHURCH BELL! THE VICAR'S SPIRIT IS BACK, JIM-- WHERE IT WANTED TO BE!

AND DOING WHAT IT WANTED TO DO--TOLLING FOR BRAXTON'S SOUL-- OVER THE EMPTY VAULT NO LONGER CURSED BY THE TOMB OF THE UNSEEN!



THE END

THROUGHOUT MAN'S EXISTENCE, **NUMBERS** HAVE PLAYED A LEADING PART IN MANY DECISIVE EVENTS! HERE IS A CHILLING STORY OF WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN WHEN A MAN'S DESTINY HANGS ON THE DREAD INFLUENCE OF A SINGLE NUMBER---AND HOW HIS OWN GREED CAN CAUSE HIM TO BE---

NUMBERED ^{for} DEATH!



YOUR FATEFUL NUMBER IS **SEVEN!** AND TO USE IT WRONGLY... MEANS **DESTRUCTION!**



IT MIGHT HAVE HAPPENED TO ANY CHEAP CROOK---IT DID HAPPEN TO "JABBER" JANX---

COPS! WONDER IF THEY'RE AFTER ME?



BUT THIS TIME---THE POLICE WERE AFTER SOMEONE ELSE!

PST! THIS WAY, PAL!



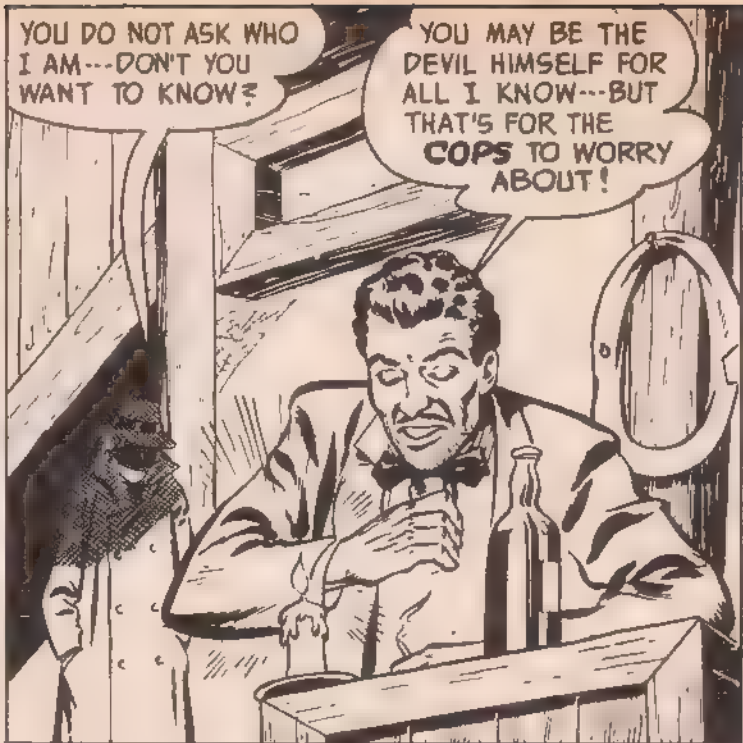
THEY'LL NEVER FIND YOU DOWN HERE---IT'S ONE O' MY HIDEOUTS!





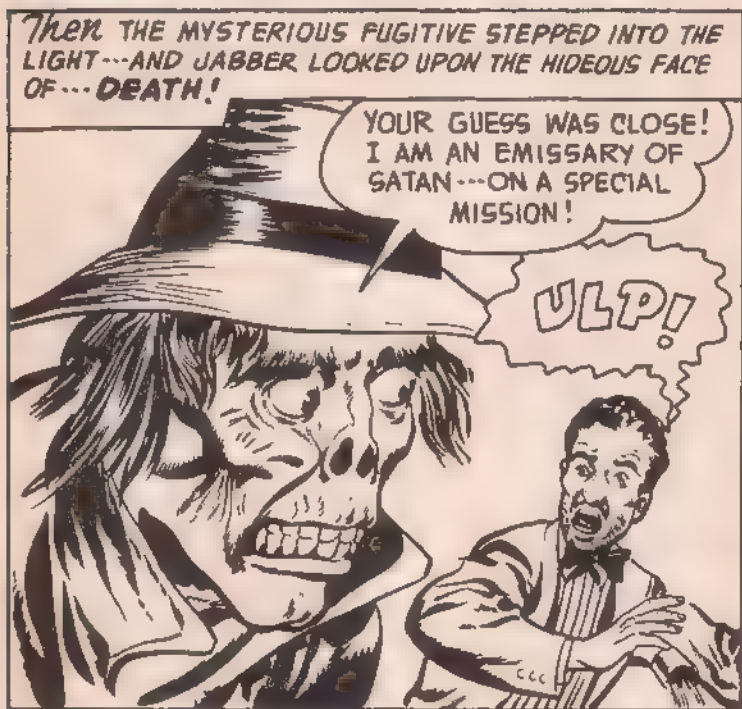
WHY DID YOU
HELP ME?

I'D WANT ANY OTHER
HOOD T'DO THE SAME
FOR ME!



YOU DO NOT ASK WHO
I AM---DON'T YOU
WANT TO KNOW?

YOU MAY BE THE
DEVIL HIMSELF FOR
ALL I KNOW---BUT
THAT'S FOR THE
COPS TO WORRY
ABOUT!



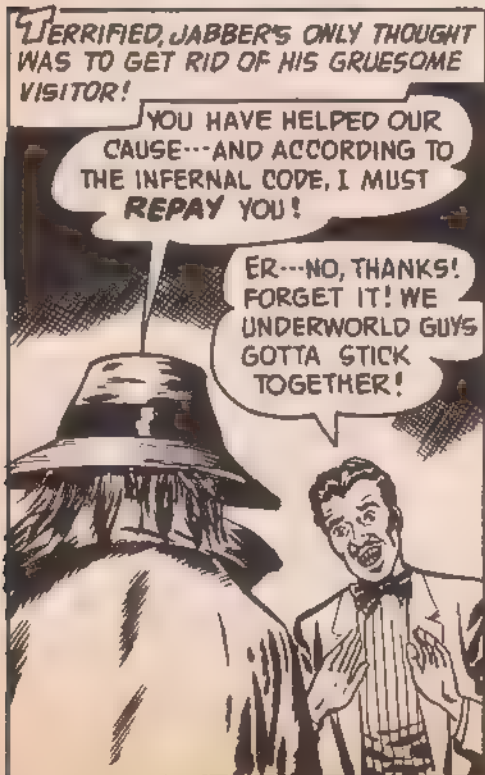
Then THE MYSTERIOUS FUGITIVE STEPPED INTO THE
LIGHT---AND JABBER LOOKED UPON THE HIDEOUS FACE
OF... **DEATH!**

YOUR GUESS WAS CLOSE!
I AM AN EMISSARY OF
SATAN---ON A SPECIAL
MISSION!

ULP!



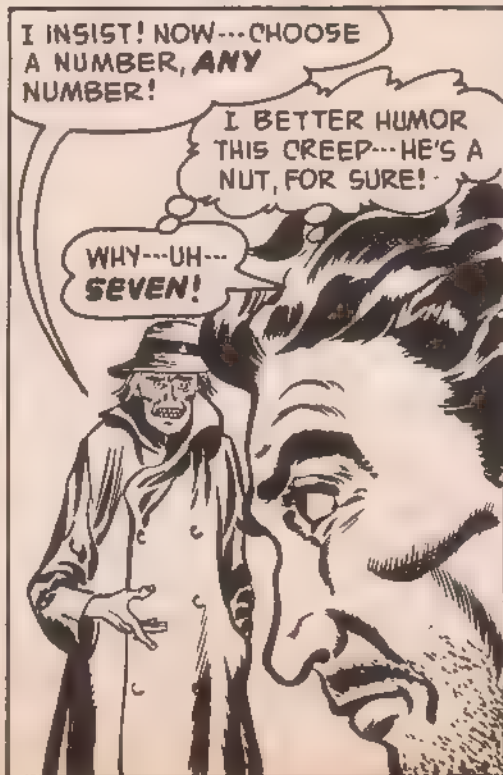
I CANNOT RETURN TO HADES UNTIL MIDNIGHT
---AND HAD THE POLICE CAUGHT ME, IT WOULD
HAVE BEEN---UH---**AWKWARD!** WE OF THE
WORLD BENEATH **DISLIKE** THE POLICE!



TERRIFIED, JABBER'S ONLY THOUGHT
WAS TO GET RID OF HIS GRUESOME
VISITOR!

YOU HAVE HELPED OUR
CAUSE---AND ACCORDING TO
THE INFERNAL CODE, I MUST
REPAY YOU!

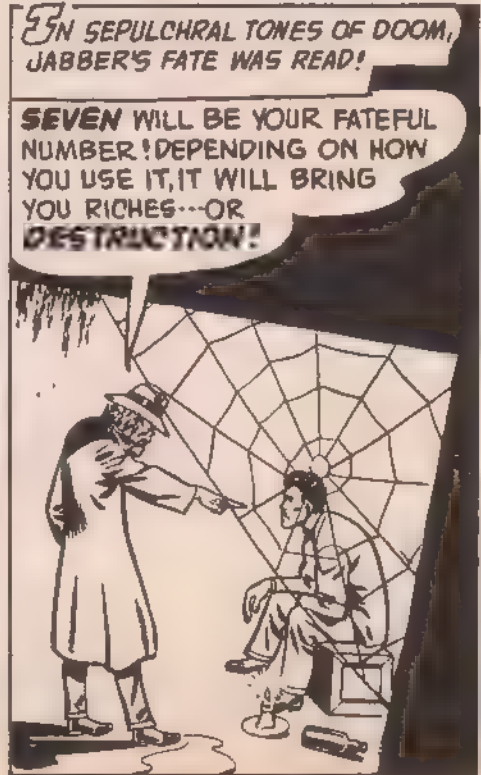
ER---NO, THANKS!
FORGET IT! WE
UNDERWORLD GUYS
GOTTA STICK
TOGETHER!



I INSIST! NOW---CHOOSE
A NUMBER, **ANY**
NUMBER!

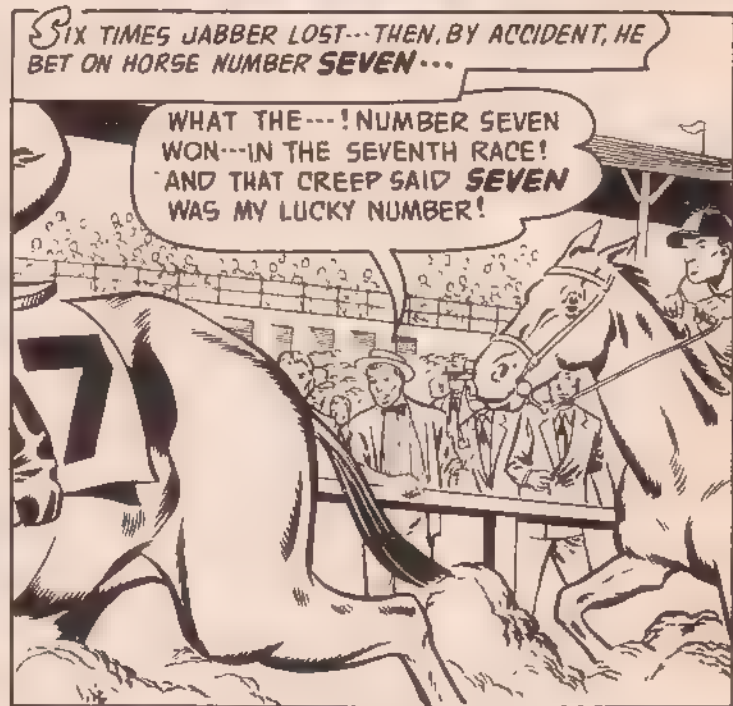
I BETTER HUMOR
THIS CREEP---HE'S A
NUT, FOR SURE!

WHY---UH---
SEVEN!



IN SEPULCHRAL TONES OF DOOM,
JABBER'S FATE WAS READ!

SEVEN WILL BE YOUR FATEFUL
NUMBER! DEPENDING ON HOW
YOU USE IT, IT WILL BRING
YOU RICHES---OR
DESTRUCTION!



THUS JABBER JANX, CHEAP CROOK, BEGAN A NEW LIFE...

GEE, JABBER, YOU'RE GENEROUS WITH YER DOUGH!

I CAN AFFORD T'BE, BABY---I GOT A **UNLIMITED SUPPLY!**



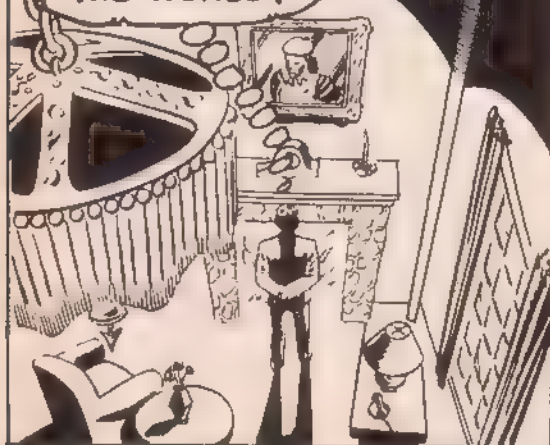
IT'S A LITTLE SMALL, BUT I'LL TAKE IT! HERE'S THE CASH!

GULP! YESSIR, MISTER JANX!



The GLORIOUS WEEK PASSED WITH NO HINT OF IMPENDING DISASTER---UNTIL THE LAST DAY---

HA! I'M BEIN' A SUCKER! IF I USE MY HEAD, BY MIDNIGHT, I CAN BE THE **RICHEST GUY IN THE WORLD!**



HMM---THERE'S LOTS O' WAYS---I COULD BUY STOCK WITH SEVEN LETTERS IN IT, OR---



JUST A FRIENDLY CALLER---AN ACQUAINTANCE OF THE OLD DAYS---

HELLO, JABBER---THOUGHT I'D REMIND YOU OF THAT LITTLE GAMBLING DEBT! IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME---

HUH? OH, YEAH--- C'MON IN!



NOW THAT YOU'RE IN THE CHIPS, YOU CAN PAY OFF!

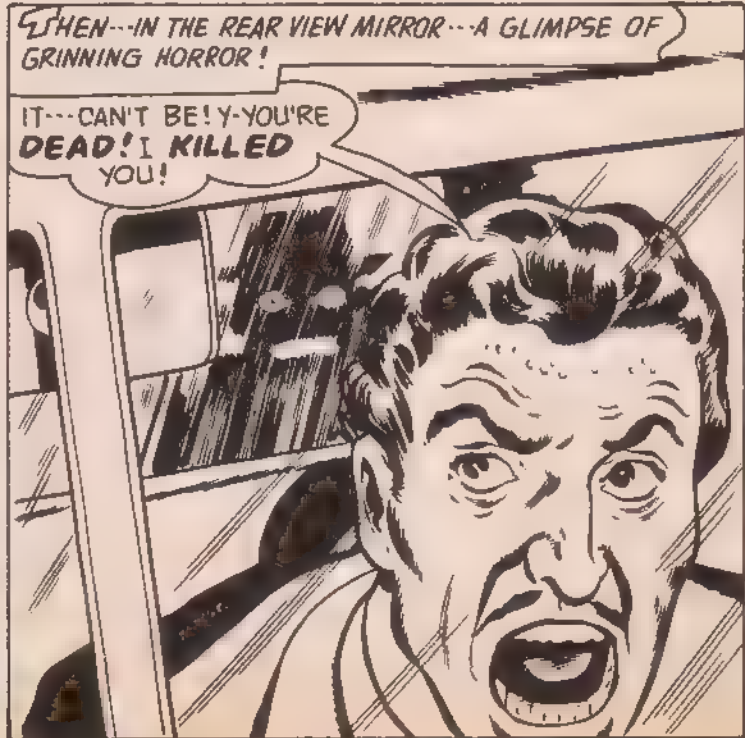
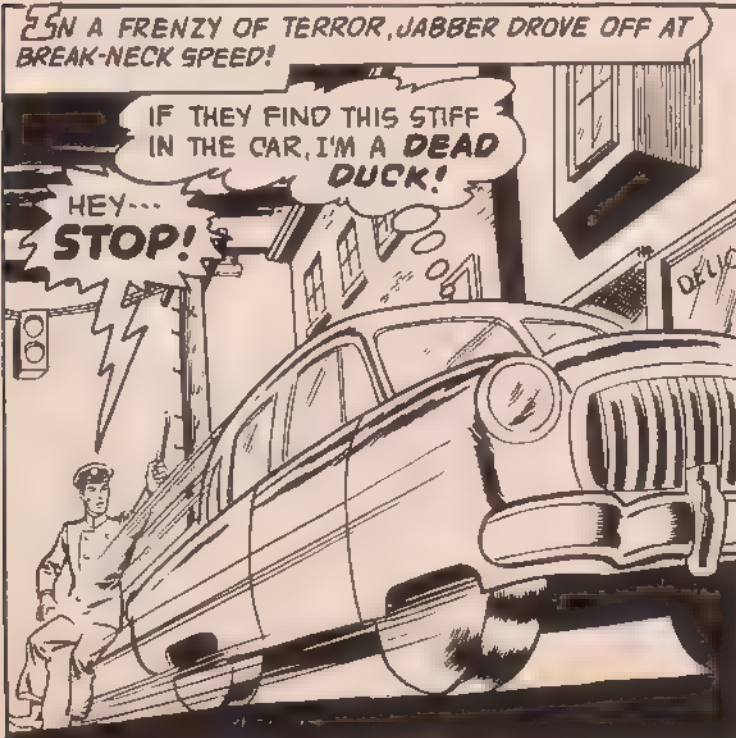
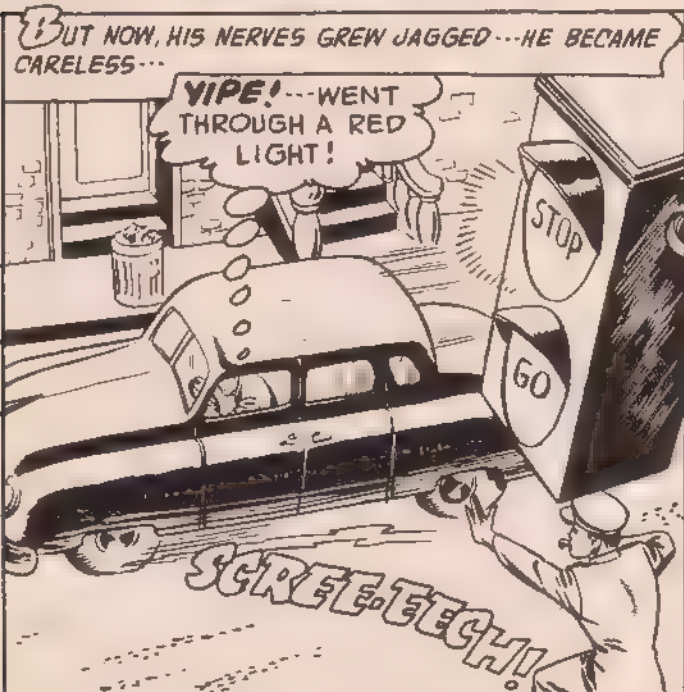
SURE, SURE---LE'SEE NOW, HOW MUCH DO I OWE YOU?



INCLUDING INTEREST, IT COMES TO AN EVEN **SEVEN THOUSAND!**

WH-WHAT?





IN A COLD SWEAT, JABBER HEARD HIS MURDERED VICTIM SPEAK---

NO---YOU ONLY WOUNDED ME!
IF YOU GIVE ME THE SEVEN
GRAND YOU OWE ME, WE'LL
CALL IT SQUARE!



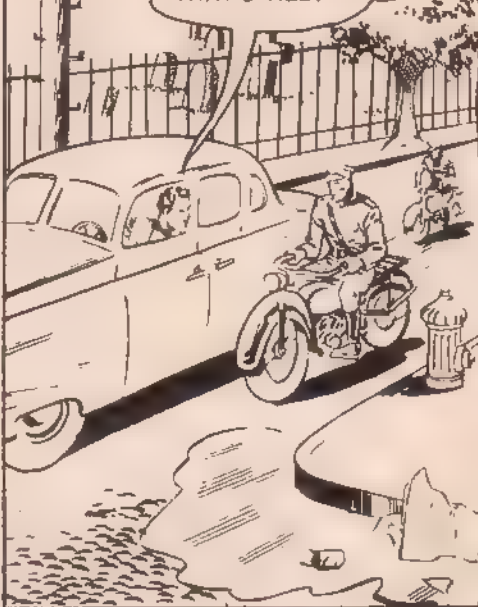
AND NOW, RELIEF FLOODED OVER JABBER---DESTINY HAD GIVEN HIM ANOTHER CHANCE!

SURE---HERE IT IS---**WITH INTEREST!**



LAUGHING, JABBER SCREECHED TO A HALT---

GIMME A TICKET, OFFICER
---I JUST GOT RATTLED,
THAT'S ALL!



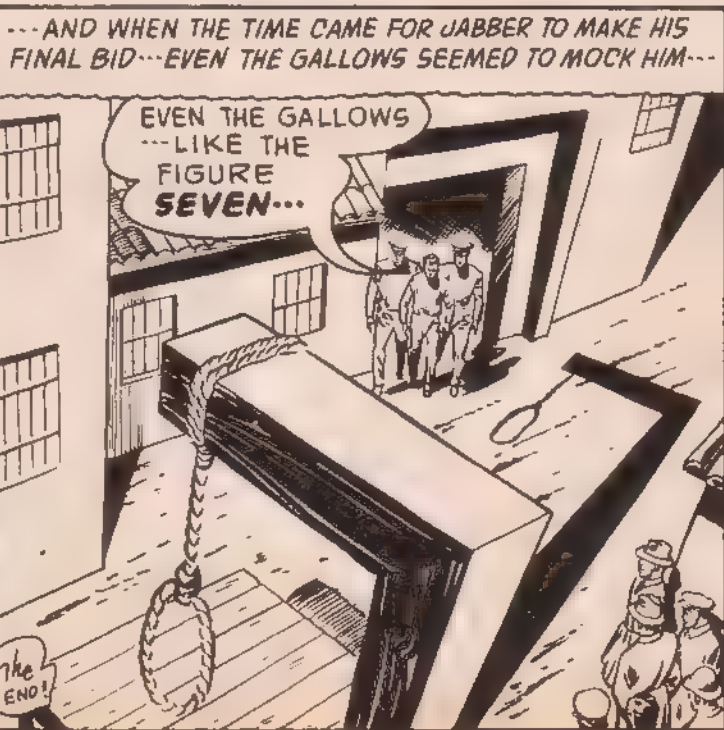
OH, YEAH?---I'M AFRAID
THAT'S **NOT** ALL!

POOR JABBER---DESTINY HAD DEALT HIM THE **JOKER!**

B-BUT---HE **CAN'T** BE
DEAD! I JUST **TALKED**
TO HIM!



NO, JABBER---YOU SPOKE TO
ME! I WARNED YOU---USED
WRONGLY, YOUR GIFT WOULD
BRING YOU---**DESTRUCTION!**



---AND WHEN THE TIME CAME FOR JABBER TO MAKE HIS
FINAL BID---EVEN THE GALLOWS SEEMED TO MOCK HIM---

EVEN THE GALLOWS
---LIKE THE
FIGURE
SEVEN---

THE
END!

IT WAS A WEIRD STORY HE HAD HEARD, BUT THE LURE OF ADVENTURE WAS A CHALLENGE HE COULDN'T REFUSE! HE WAS DETERMINED TO SUCCEED WHERE OTHERS HAD FAILED, NEVER REALIZING WHAT AWESOME TERROR AWAITED THOSE WHO DARED ASCEND THE...

MOUNTAIN of DOOM



at a small inn, in the heart of the Austrian Tyrols--

TO US WHO HAVE LIVED HERE ALL OUR LIVES, IT IS KNOWN AS THE **MOUNTAIN OF DOOM!** THERE IS A LEGEND, TOO-- WHICH TELLS OF A WHITE BOAR WHO SUPPOSEDLY LIVES NEAR THE PEAK! IT HAS BEEN HUNTED OFTEN, BUT NEVER CAUGHT!

THAT'S AN IMPRESSIVE MOUNTAIN, HERR MULLER-- DO YOU THINK A SECOND-RATE AMERICAN CLIMBER LIKE ME COULD SCALE IT?

YOU ARE NO SECOND-RATE CLIMBER, MR. DIXON, BUT I WOULDN'T **RECOMMEND** IT!

A **WHITE BOAR**, EH? YOU'VE MADE ME INTERESTED, MULLER-- INTERESTED ENOUGH TO TRY IT **MYSELF!**

BUT I HAVEN'T TOLD YOU WHY WE CALL IT THE MOUNTAIN OF DOOM! IT'S BECAUSE **MANY** HAVE GONE TO HUNT THE WHITE BOAR-- **BUT NONE EVER RETURNED!**

THAT **CLINCHES** IT! I'M CLIMBING THAT PILE OF ROCK FIRST THING IN THE MORNING!

ALL THE FOLLOWING DAY, UNTIL LATE AFTERNOON, ALEX STRUGGLED UPWARD--

I'M--REALLY--POOPED! WHEN I REACH THAT LEDGE UP THERE-- I'LL MAKE CAMP FOR THE NIGHT!

WHAT D'YA KNOW-- A HOUSE! THIS IS LUCK-- I'D CERTAINLY PREFER A BED TO MY SLEEPING BAG!



BUT A FEW MINUTES LATER, INSIDE THE HOUSE--

THIS IS NO LODGING HOUSE, AND STRANGERS AREN'T WELCOME! SO PICK YOURSELF UP AND GO! BEGONE NOW-- OFF WITH YE!

NO NEED TO GET YOURSELF INTO A LATHER, PAL-- I CAN TAKE A HINT!

UNEXPECTEDLY--

WAIT! THERE IS NO NEED TO SEND HIM AWAY, UNCLE-- THERE IS ROOM HERE!

WELL, THANK YOU, MISS... ER...



CALL ME-- TRINA! WE DON'T SEE PEOPLE UP HERE VERY OFTEN-- AND SO WE'RE A BIT GRUFF! YOU SEEM TIRED-- COME, I'LL SHOW YOU TO YOUR ROOM!

THANKS, TRINA! MY NAME IS ALEX DIXON-- I HOPE WE'LL BE FRIENDS!



THE HOURS PASS, NIGHT ENSHROUDS THE MOUNTAIN, THEN, ALL AT ONCE, THE AIR IS SHATTERED BY A GUTTERAL CRY--

EEYOWW!



INSTANTLY, ALEX IS OUT
OF BED--

WELL, I'LL BE--! IT'S THE
WHITE BOAR MULLER
SPOKE OF! HERE'S MY
CHANCE TO HUNT
IT DOWN!



MINUTES LATER, IN
SWIFT PURSUIT--

IT'S HEADING FOR THAT
BRUSH! ONCE IT GETS IN
THERE, I'LL NEVER GET
A SHOT AT IT!



I'VE LOST IT! HOLD IT--THAT
NOISE COMING FROM
THOSE BUSHES---



GREAT GUNS--
IT CAN'T BE!
NO-- NO!



With A
MURDEROUS
RUSH--

EYOWWW!



**SWIFTLY THE CREATURE'S MONSTROUS
STRENGTH OVERWHELMS ALEX... ITS RAZOR-
SHARP TUSKS SEEKING THE THROAT--**

IT'S-- CRUSHING -- MY-- WINDPIPE!
I'M--BLACKING-- OUT---



**BUT AS THE FIRST RAYS OF DAWN SUDDENLY
STREAK THE EASTERN SKY, THE MONSTER
RISES WITH AN ANGRY SNARL--**

YOWWWW!



-- And THEN DASHES OFF, ITS HUMAN SHAPE CHANGING INTO A HAIRY, FLEETING BEAST -- JUST AS ALEX REVIVES MOMENTARILY BEFORE LAPSING INTO UNCONSCIOUSNESS AGAIN!



WHAT SEEMS AN ETERNITY LATER--

WH- WHERE AM I? H- HOW DID I GET HERE?

I FOUND YOU OUT ON THE SLOPE! IT WAS MADNESS TO HUNT THE WHITE BOAR-- YOU COULD HAVE BEEN KILLED!



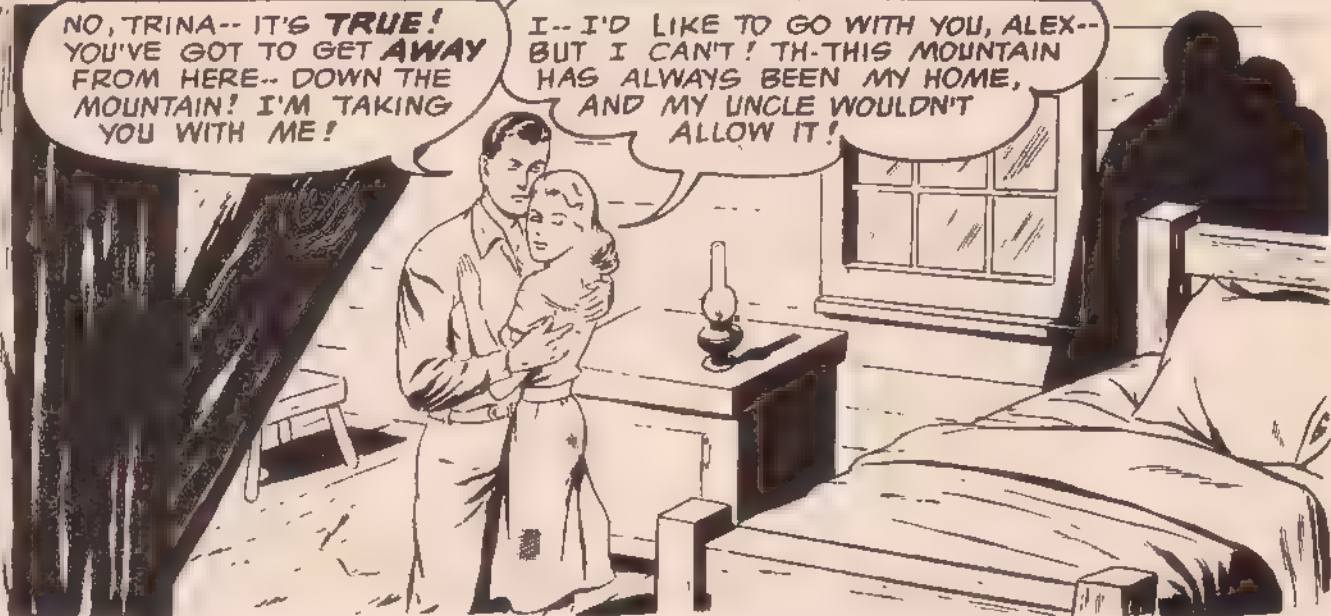
BUT IT WASN'T THE BOAR THAT ATTACKED ME! IT WAS SOME KIND OF MONSTROUS BEAST... PART HUMAN AND PART ANIMAL! IT RAN OFF THE SECOND DAWN CAME, AS THOUGH IT WERE AFRAID OF THE LIGHT!

YOU'RE TALKING NONSENSE, ALEX! IT COULDN'T BE! Y-YOU'RE DELIRIOUS!



NO, TRINA-- IT'S TRUE! YOU'VE GOT TO GET AWAY FROM HERE-- DOWN THE MOUNTAIN! I'M TAKING YOU WITH ME!

I-- I'D LIKE TO GO WITH YOU, ALEX-- BUT I CAN'T! TH-THIS MOUNTAIN HAS ALWAYS BEEN MY HOME, AND MY UNCLE WOULDN'T ALLOW IT!



BUT YOU MUST COME! DON'T YOU SEE, TRINA-- DESPITE THE LITTLE TIME WE'VE KNOWN EACH OTHER, I'M DRAWN TO YOU! I CAN'T LEAVE YOU BEHIND!

I-- I UNDERSTAND, ALEX! FROM THE MOMENT YOU STEPPED INSIDE THE HOUSE-- I FELT SOMETHING BRINGING US TOGETHER! THE FOOTPATH BESIDE THE HOUSE LEADS TO A SMALL CATARACT-- I WILL MEET YOU THERE-- AT MIDNIGHT-- WHEN MY UNCLE IS ASLEEP!

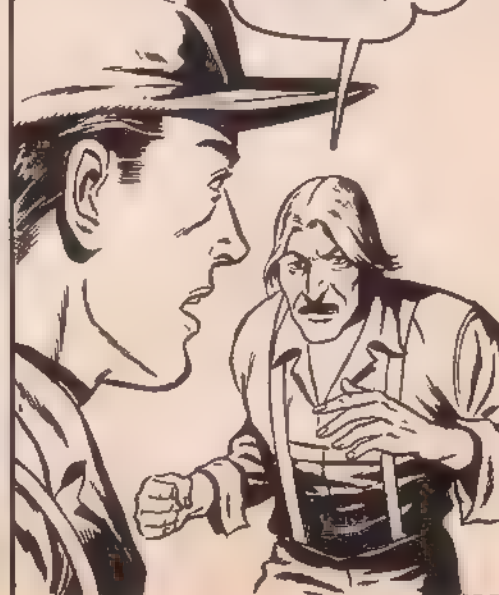
AS MIDNIGHT APPROACHES, ALEX WAITS ANXIOUSLY AT THE APPOINTED SPOT--

SHE SHOULD BE HERE ANY MINUTE NOW! AH, I HEAR FOOTSTEPS APPROACHING! THAT MUST BE HER!



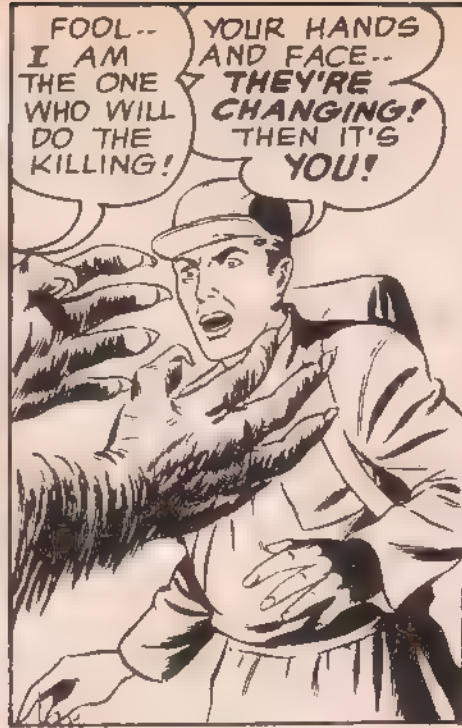
YOU!

OF COURSE, YOU FOOL! I OVER-HEARD YOUR PLANS -- BUT TRINA WILL NEVER LEAVE HERE ALIVE!





YOU MISERABLE OLD TYRANT! WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO HER? WHERE IS SHE? TELL ME, OR I'LL **KILL YOU!**



FOOL-- I AM THE ONE WHO WILL DO THE KILLING!

YOUR HANDS AND FACE-- **THEY'RE CHANGING!** THEN IT'S **YOU!**



EEYOWWWW!

WAM!



Suddenly, from above--

IT'S THE **WHITE BOAR!**

GROWRR!

With DEMONIACAL FURY THE TWO BEASTS CLASH, AND THE AIR BOILS WITH THEIR FRENZIED CRIES--



IT'S A FIGHT TO THE FINISH-- THEY'RE **KILLING EACH OTHER!**

ARGHHH!



SECONDS AFTERWARDS--

HE'S DEAD, BUT THE WHITE BOAR-- SOMETHING'S HAPPENING TO IT! IT'S STARTING TO **CHANGE!** IT'S TURNING INTO---



TRINA!

YES-- ALEX! NOW YOU KNOW... WHY I WANTED TO REMAIN! MY UNCLE AND I WERE THE LAST OF OUR FEARFUL KIND! HE'S DEAD... SOON I WILL DIE... TOO! IT IS... FAR BETTER! FAREWELL, MY-- **OHhh!**



Two DAYS LATER--

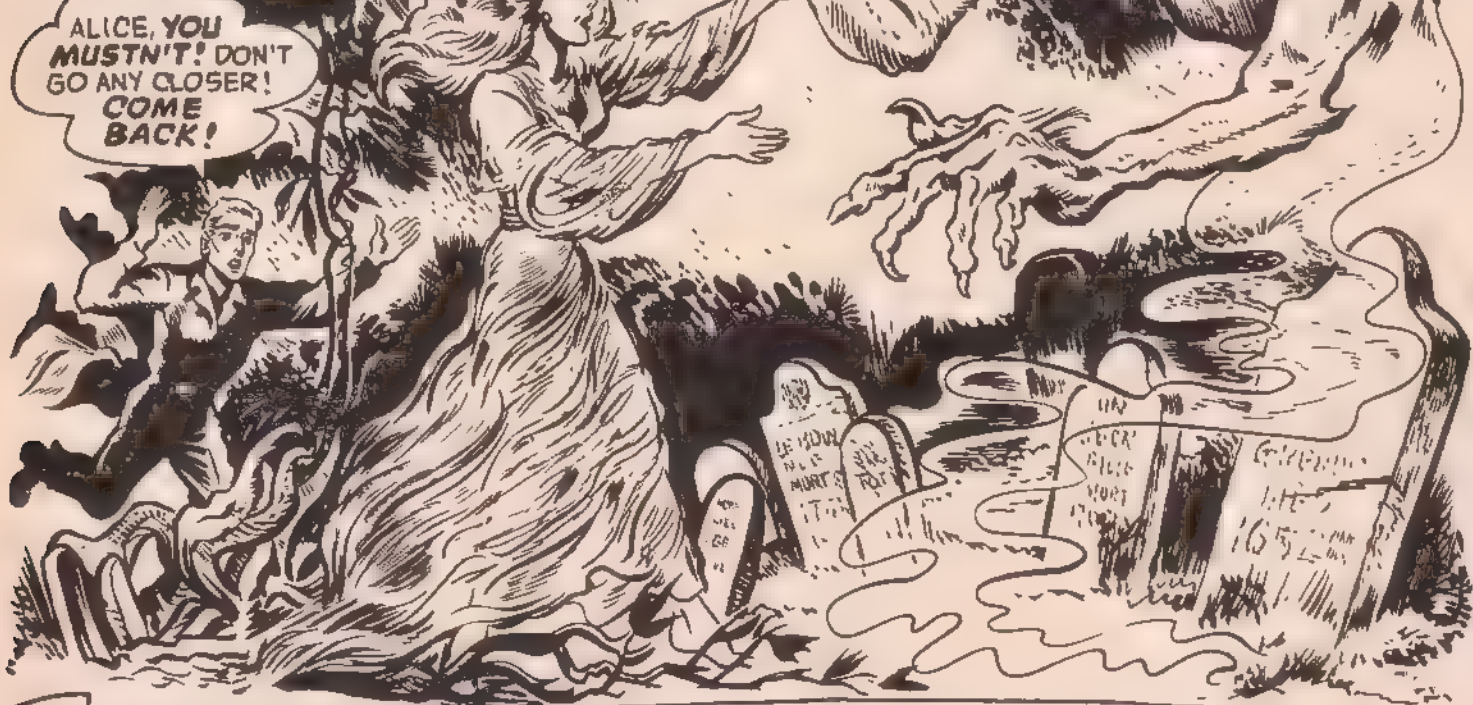
AND YOU HAVE **NOTHING** TO SAY BEFORE LEAVING? **NOTHING** ABOUT THE WHITE BOAR?

IT WAS ONLY A **MYTH**, HERR MULLER! I SAW **NOTHING** WHILE I WAS THERE, AND NEITHER WILL ANYONE ELSE-- **EVER!** ON THAT I GIVE MY **WORD!**

THE END

PAYMENT in FULL!

ALICE, YOU
MUSTN'T! DON'T
GO ANY CLOSER!
COME
BACK!



IT CAME WITH MIDNIGHT--- A HORRIBLE, WRITHING EVIL--- SPRINGING FORTH FROM THE DANK SOIL OF AN ANCIENT GRAVEYARD! IT WAS NEITHER LIVING NOR DEAD, THAT DARK SATANIC FORCE, BUT IT WOULD NEVER YIELD UNTIL IT HAD RECEIVED ITS--- **PAYMENT IN FULL!**

ON THE VERANDA OF A COFFEE PLANTATION ON THE ISLAND OF HAITI---

BUT I CAN'T ACCEPT IT, HENRY! IT'S FAR TOO EXPENSIVE FOR A GIFT--- BESIDES, THERE ARE **OTHER** REASONS!

YOU'RE JUST BEING COY, ALICE--- NO WOMAN COULD RESIST ANYTHING AS BEAUTIFUL AS THIS! HERE, LET ME SLIP IT ON YOUR ARM --- **THEN MAKE YOUR DECISION!**



HOLD IT, BUD--- THE LADY HAS **ALREADY** DECIDED!

OH, BARRY--- I'M SO GLAD YOU'RE HERE!

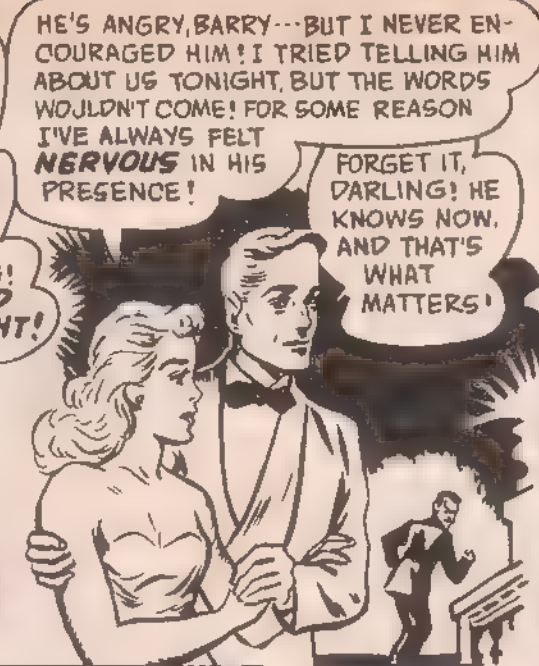




HENRY, I WANT YOU TO MEET **BARRY BROOKS**, MY FATHER'S HEAD FOREMAN! W---WE BECAME **ENGAGED** LAST WEEK!

AH, I SEE **NOW** WHAT YOU MEANT WHEN YOU **SPOKE OF OTHER REASONS!**

I HAVE BEEN PLAYED FOR A FOOL ALL ALONG! **GOOD NIGHT!**



HE'S ANGRY, BARRY---BUT I NEVER ENCOURAGED HIM! I TRIED TELLING HIM ABOUT US TONIGHT, BUT THE WORDS WOULDN'T COME! FOR SOME REASON I'VE ALWAYS FELT **NERVOUS** IN HIS PRESENCE!

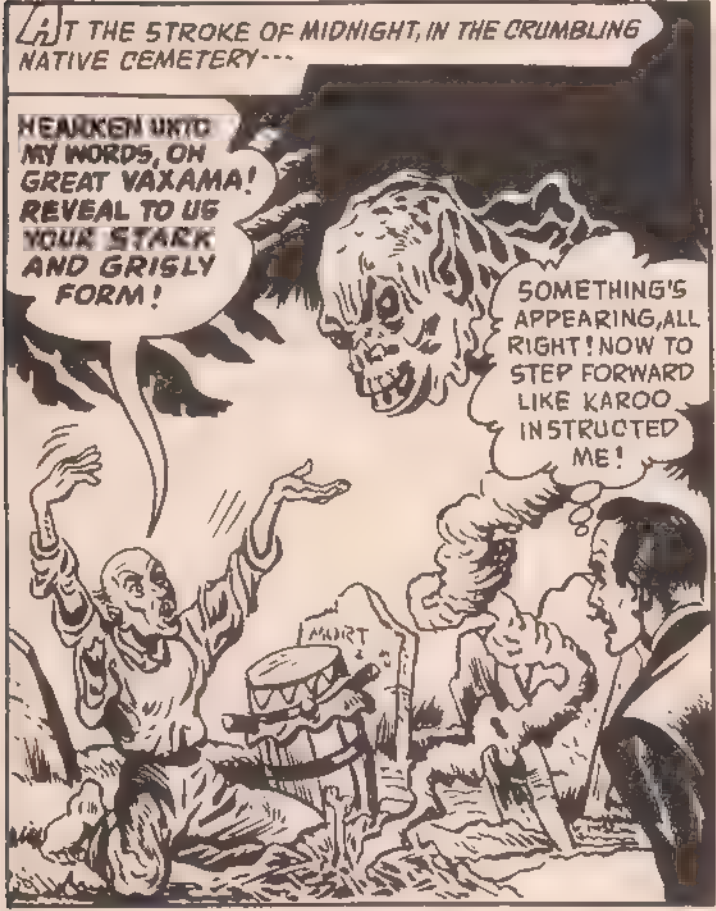
FORGET IT, DARLING! HE KNOWS NOW, AND THAT'S WHAT MATTERS!

THAT SAME EVENING, IN THE NATIVE HUT OF A VODOO WITCH DOCTOR---



WHAT YOU ASK CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED, BUT IT WILL TAKE GOLD---AND MUCH **COURAGE!** WE MUST GO TO THE CEMETERY AND CALL UPON **VAXAMA**---THE SPIRITUAL LEADER OF ALL ZOMBIES! ONLY HE CAN GRANT YOUR WISH!

I HAVE THE GOLD, KAROO---AND THE **COURAGE!** YOU MUST TAKE ME TO **VAXAMA**---TONIGHT!



AT THE STROKE OF MIDNIGHT, IN THE CRUMBLING NATIVE CEMETERY---

HEarken UNTO MY WORDS, OH GREAT **VAXAMA!** REVEAL TO US YOUR STARK AND GRISLY FORM!

SOMETHING'S APPEARING, ALL RIGHT! NOW TO STEP FORWARD LIKE KAROO INSTRUCTED ME!



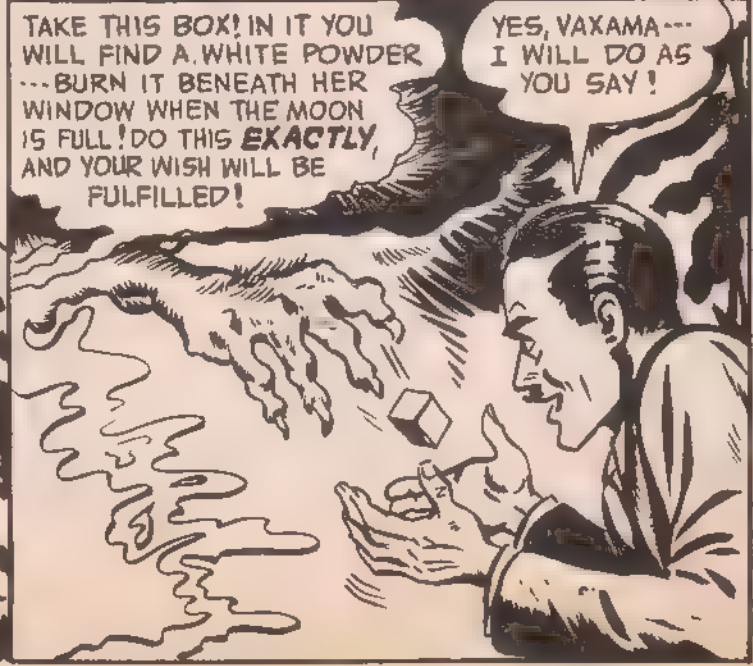
I---I HAVE COME TO ASK---

SILENCE! I ALREADY KNOW YOUR WISH--- YOU DESIRE THE LOVE OF A WOMAN YOU HAVE LOST TO YOUR RIVAL! IT CAN BE DONE---IF YOU ARE WILLING TO PAY MY PRICE!



GRANT ME THE POWER OF WINNING HER LOVE AND I'LL PAY ANYTHING---**ANYTHING!**

YOU HAVE STRUCK A BARGAIN---AND SHALL HAVE THAT **POWER!**



TAKE THIS BOX! IN IT YOU WILL FIND A WHITE POWDER---BURN IT BENEATH HER WINDOW WHEN THE MOON IS FULL! DO THIS **EXACTLY**, AND YOUR WISH WILL BE FULFILLED!

YES, VAXAMA---I WILL DO AS YOU SAY!

SEVERAL NIGHTS LATER,
WHEN THE MOON IS FULL---

THERE---IT'S
BEGINNING TO
SMOKE! IN A FEW
MOMENTS THE
WIND WILL CARRY
IT TO HER OPEN
WINDOW! IT
MUSTN'T
FAIL!

IT'S GOING
STRAIGHT FOR
HER ROOM---
AS THOUGH
IT **KNEW!**
NOW I'M **CON-**
VINCED THAT
VAXAMA'S MAGIC
IS STRONG! SOON IT
WILL HAVE ITS EFFECT
---SHE'LL FORGET
ALL ABOUT BROOKS,
AND HER THOUGHTS
WILL ONLY BE OF
ME!

IN ALICE'S ROOM---

W---WHO CALLS?
I HEAR YOU, BUT
AS IF FROM A
GREAT DISTANCE!
WHAT IS IT YOU
WISH? T-TELL
ME---**TELL
ME!**

AS THE APPARITION MATERIALIZES
FULLY---

LISTEN CAREFULLY---AND
OBEY! NO LONGER DO YOU
LOVE THE ONE TO WHOM YOU
ARE ENGAGED! THERE IS
ANOTHER NOW---ONE WHO
LOVES YOU FAR MORE---ONE
WHOM YOU MUST LOVE WITH
ALL YOUR
HEART!

Y-YES!
I---WILL
---OBEY!

I---LOVE---
HENRY!
YOU'VE---
MADE IT---
CLEAR!

YES, **HENRY**
IS THE ONE,
AND THE OTHER
MEANS NO-
THING TO YOU---
NOTHING!

ALICE, IS THAT
YOU? ARE YOU
ALL RIGHT?

Y---YES,
FATHER!
J---JUST A
MINUTE!

**KNOCK,
KNOCK!**



WE HEARD YOU DOWNSTAIRS---AS THOUGH YOU WERE **SPEAKING** TO SOMEONE! WE THOUGHT---

I---I MUST HAVE HAD A **DREAM**, DAD---BUT I DON'T SEEM TO **RE-MEMBER** IT ANYMORE! I---I'M ALL RIGHT NOW!



SURE, HONEY, YOU'RE ALL---

N---NO! DON'T **TOUCH** ME! GO AWAY--- I **HATE** YOU!



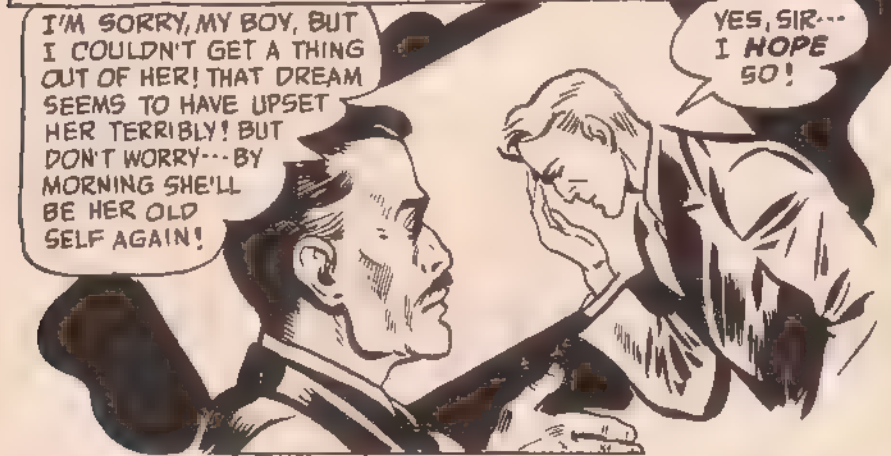
ALICE! WHAT ON EARTH---

EASY, BARRY--- SHE'S SHAKING LIKE A LEAF! YOU GO DOWNSTAIRS---I'LL BE ALONG PRESENTLY!

AN HOUR LATER, WHEN ALICE FINALLY FALLS ASLEEP---

I'M SORRY, MY BOY, BUT I COULDN'T GET A THING OUT OF HER! THAT DREAM SEEMS TO HAVE UPSET HER TERRIBLY! BUT DON'T WORRY---BY MORNING SHE'LL BE HER OLD SELF AGAIN!

YES, SIR--- I **HOPE** SO!



BUT THE FOLLOWING EVENING, AS BARRY APPROACHES THE HOUSE THROUGH THE GARDEN---

THEN YOU **DO** LOVE ME, ALICE---AND YOU PROMISE THAT YOU'LL **NEVER** SEE THIS BARRY AGAIN?

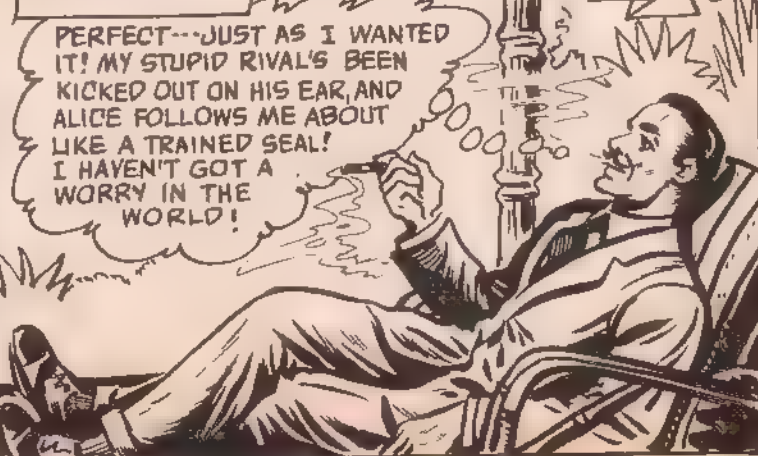


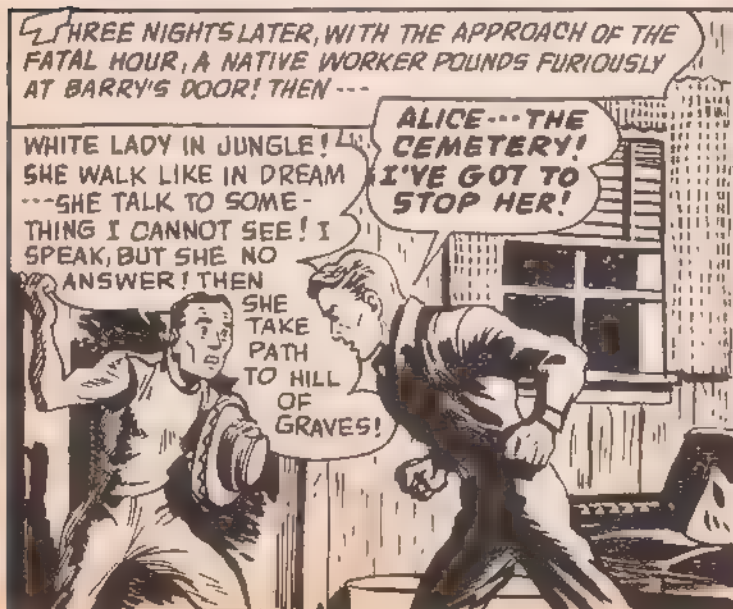
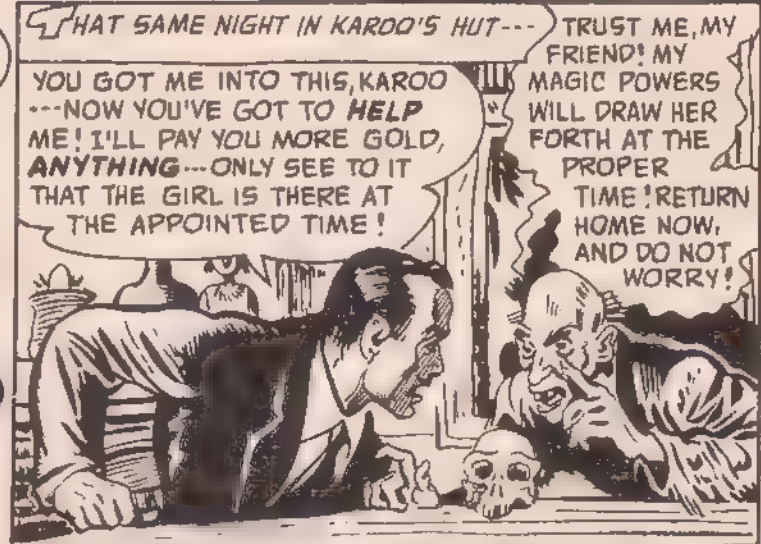
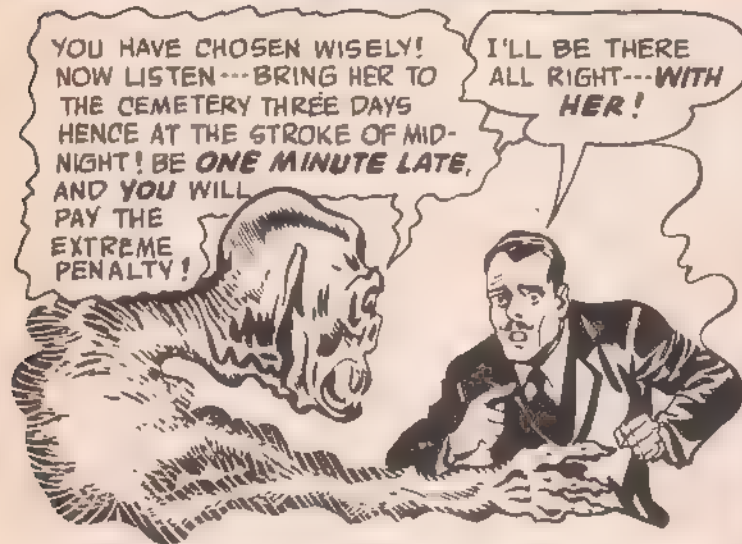
WHY SHOULD I, HENRY, WHEN IT'S **YOU** I LOVE?

FINE! THEN WE'LL BE MARRIED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE! I'LL TAKE CARE OF EVERYTHING!

TWO WEEKS LATER, AS THE DAY OF WEDDING DRAWS NEAR---

PERFECT---JUST AS I WANTED IT! MY STUPID RIVAL'S BEEN KICKED OUT ON HIS EAR, AND ALICE FOLLOWS ME ABOUT LIKE A TRAINED SEAL! I HAVEN'T GOT A WORRY IN THE WORLD!





AS THE HOUR OF MIDNIGHT STRIKES, AND THE CEMETERY SWARMS WITH THE GRISLY FORMS OF THE LIVING DEAD---

THERE IS YOUR SACRIFICE! SEIZE HER!



YOU'RE NOT GRABBING ANYONE, CREEP!



THEN, SWEEPING ALICE INTO HIS ARMS---

DON'T LET THEM GET AWAY! STOP THEM! THEY MUSTN'T ESCAPE!



WAIT! IT IS TOO LATE! THE HOUR OF MIDNIGHT HAS PASSED, AND THEY ARE BEYOND OUR REACH! WE HAVE LOST OUR SACRIFICE, BUT THE ONE WHO PLEDGED HER IS STILL AMONGST US! HE SHALL TAKE HER PLACE! SEIZE HIM!



NO... SPARE ME! NO! YAAAAA!



THE FOLLOWING DAY---

SOON THE PIERCING CRY CHANGES TO A BABBLING MURMUR! THEN---SILENCE! THE DEED IS DONE---PAYMENT HAS BEEN MADE---IN FULL!



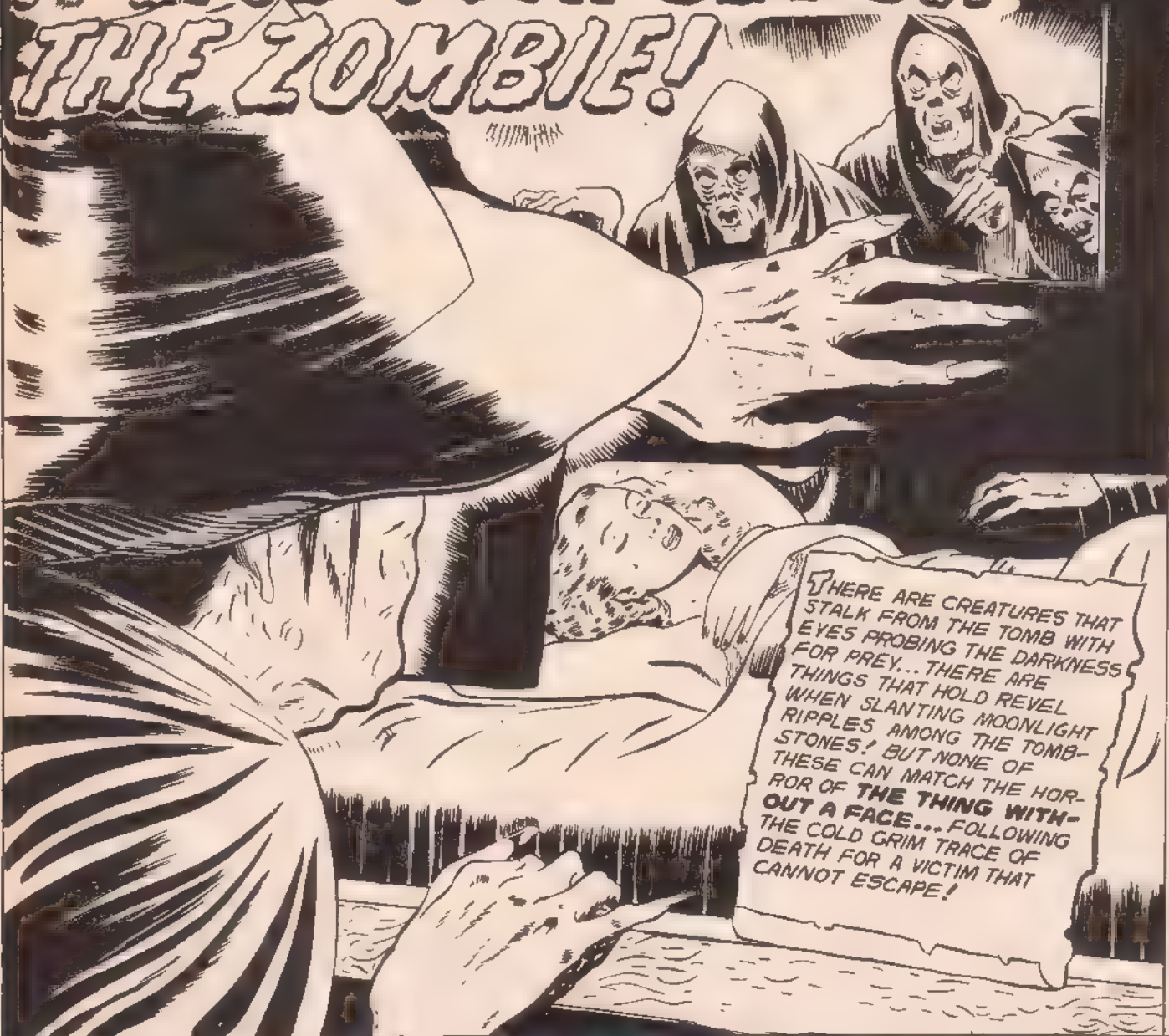
I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE IT, DARLING! I SEEM TO REMEMBER ONLY A VAGUE AND HORRIBLE DREAM!

IT'S JUST AS WELL, HONEY! HENRY HAS PAID FOR HIS EVIL, AND IN DOING SO THE SPELL OVER YOU HAS BEEN SNAPPED! YOU CAN FORGET THE WHOLE BUSINESS, EXCEPT FOR ONE THING! THERE'S STILL GOING TO BE A WEDDING---ONLY I'LL BE THE GROOM!



THE END

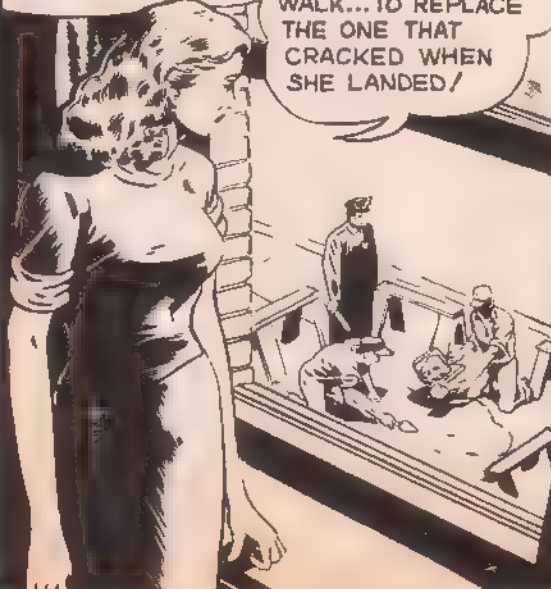
A LIVE CORPSE FOR THE ZOMBIE!



THERE ARE CREATURES THAT STALK FROM THE TOMB WITH EYES PROBING THE DARKNESS FOR PREY... THERE ARE THINGS THAT HOLD REVEL WHEN SLANTING MOONLIGHT RIPPLES AMONG THE TOMB-STONES! BUT NONE OF THESE CAN MATCH THE HORROR OF THE THING WITHOUT A FACE... FOLLOWING THE COLD GRIM TRACE OF DEATH FOR A VICTIM THAT CANNOT ESCAPE!

LATE ONE AFTERNOON...

I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE MRS. JOHNSON COMMITTED SUICIDE JUST A FEW HOURS AGO BY JUMPING FROM THE APARTMENT DIRECTLY ABOVE MINE! BUT I MUSTN'T GET MORBID ABOUT IT... I'VE GOT TO STOP WATCHING THOSE WORKMEN LAYING A NEW CEMENT SIDEWALK... TO REPLACE THE ONE THAT CRACKED WHEN SHE LANDED!



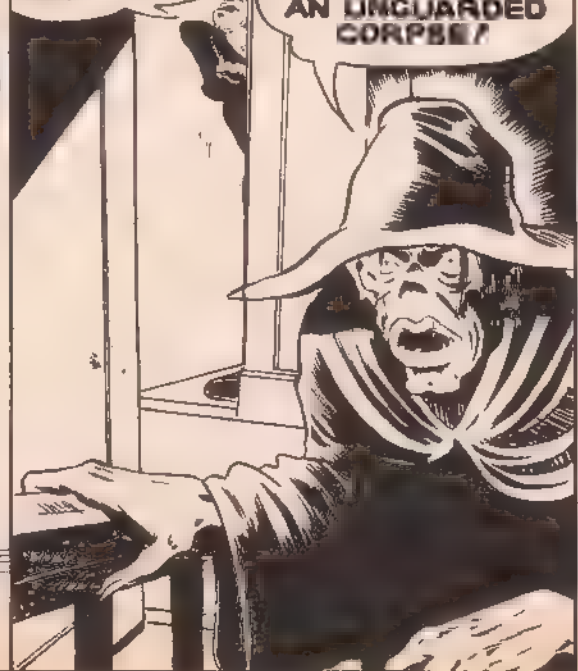
SHE WAS ALONE ALL THESE YEARS... AND NOW HER BODY'S ALONE... UNTIL THE CORONER'S EXAMINATION IN THE MORNING! THANK GOODNESS NED'S DROPPING AROUND LATER... I COULDN'T BEAR BEING BY MYSELF... KNOWING WHAT'S UP THERE!



THAT NIGHT...

OH HEAVENS... I WAS SURE I HEARD NED'S FOOTSTEPS! WONDER WHO THAT IS?

AHH! JUST A FEW MORE YARDS BEFORE I FIND THE THING I HAVE LEARNED TO DETECT THROUGH THE CENTURIES... AN UNGUARDED CORPSE!



MINUTES LATER... AS ANN ANSWERS HER DOOR BELL...

OH! WHAT DO YOU WANT?

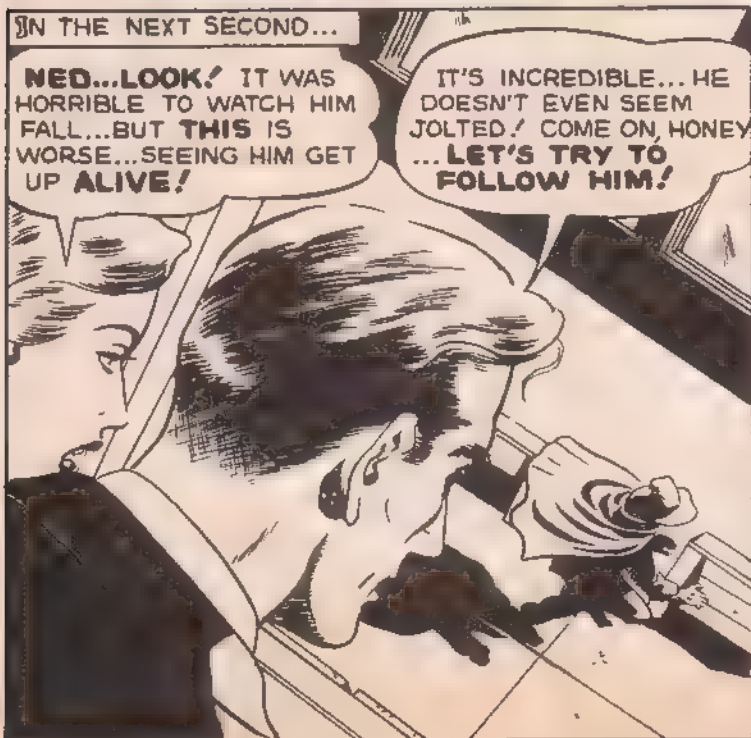
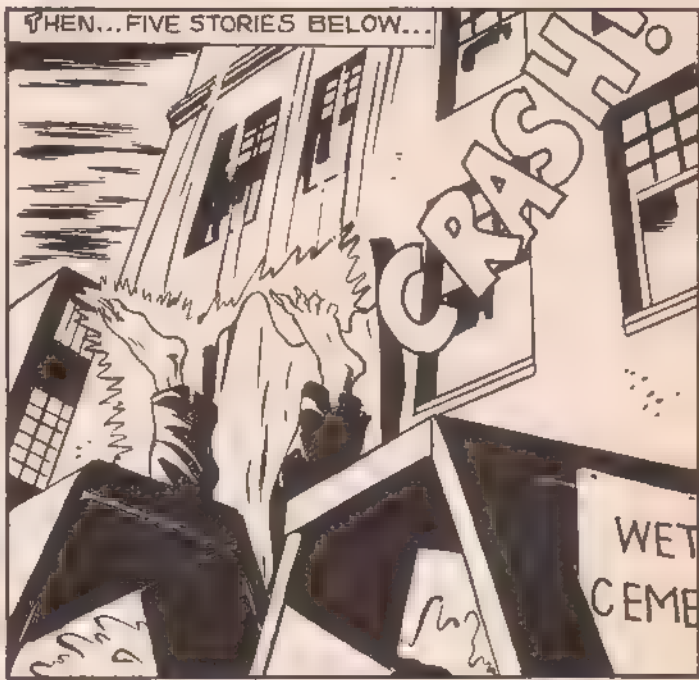
I CAME TO SEE MRS. JOHNSON... BUT SINCE HER DOOR IS LOCKED... YOU MUST LET ME ENTER HERE!

MRS. JOHNSON! BUT YOU CAN'T SEE HER... SHE'S DEAD!

HA HA! AND WHY DO YOU SUPPOSE I CAME... IF I DIDN'T KNOW THAT?

I AM CLIMBING UP TO MRS. JOHNSON... HER WINDOW WILL ADMIT ME TO THE CHAMBER OF DEATH... AND YOU ARE GOING TO FORGET YOU EVER SAW ME!

YE GODS... ANN!



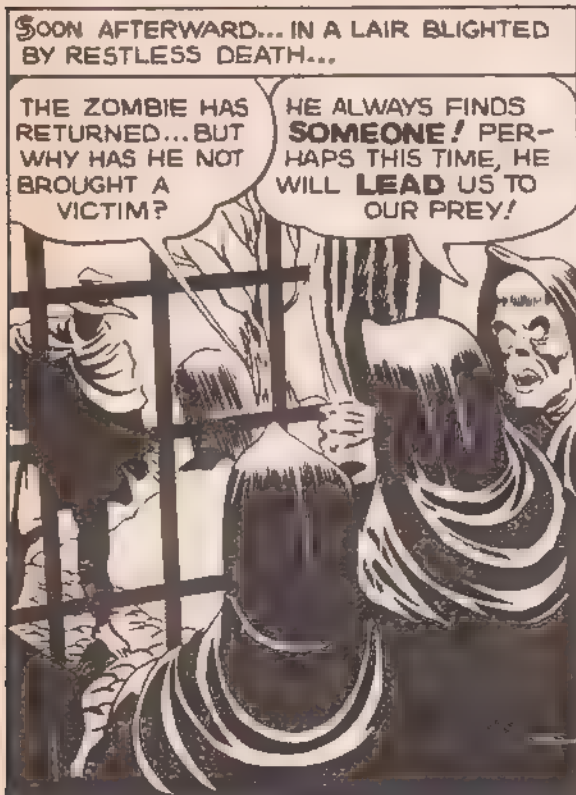


IT'LL BE FIRM IN A FEW HOURS...
AND **THEN** WE CAN MAKE A
MASK FROM THIS NEGATIVE...
BY FILLING IT
WITH A PLASTIC
COMPOUND! I
WANT A CHANCE
TO STUDY
THESE
FEATURES...
AND SO
WILL THE
POLICE!



NED... I'VE
SEEN THAT FACE!
THE POLICE CAN
ROUND UP MUR-
DERERS AND
MADMEN... BUT
NOTHING LIKE
HIM!

TRY NOT TO WORRY ABOUT IT,
HONEY! WE'LL GO TO MY PLACE
LATER... AFTER YOU'VE
RESTED A COUPLE OF HOURS
... AND SEE WHAT
GIVES WITH
THE MASK!



THE ZOMBIE HAS
RETURNED... BUT
WHY HAS HE NOT
BROUGHT A
VICTIM?

HE ALWAYS FINDS
SOMEONE! PER-
HAPS THIS TIME, HE
WILL **LEAD** US TO
OUR PREY!

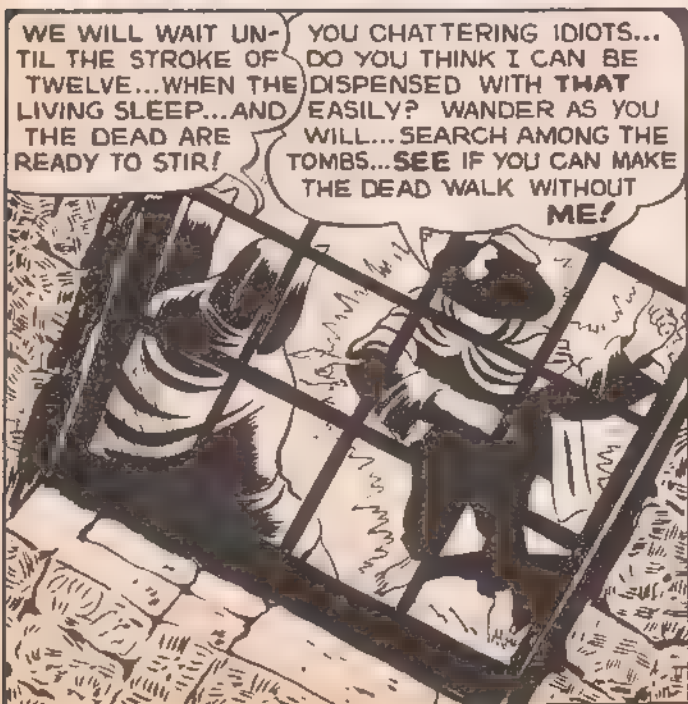


SLOWLY THE DOOR
OPENS... AND THERE,
FRAMED BY DARKNESS...



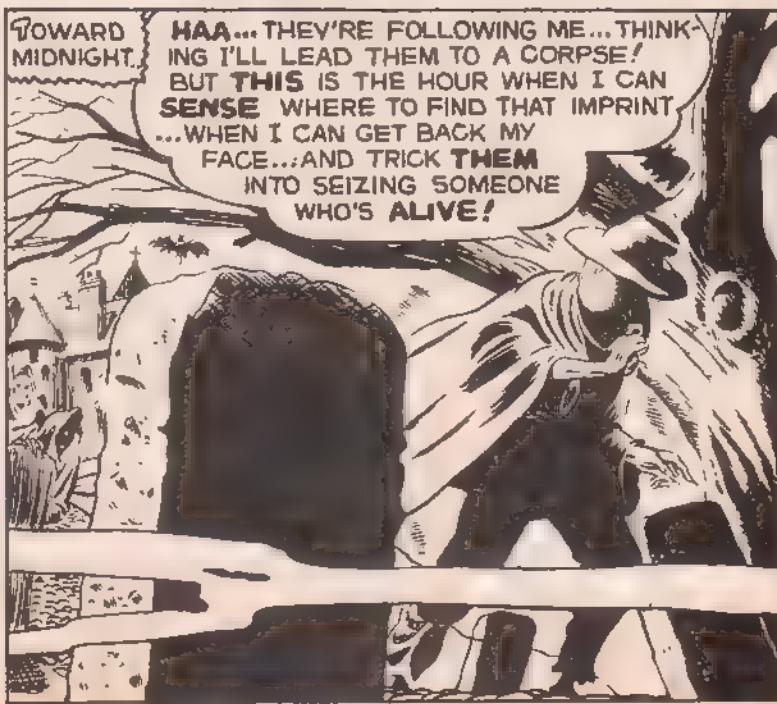
HE IS NO LONGER
THE ZOMBIE **WE**
OBEY! HE HAS
BECOME **A THING**
WITHOUT A
FACE!

NOW **WE** CAN
ROAM THE
DARKNESS...
AND THE FIRST
OF US TO RETURN
WITH A WALKING
CORPSE WILL GAIN
CONTROL OF THE BAND
OF THE UNDEAD! HE
WILL BECOME THE
NEW ZOMBIE!



WE WILL WAIT UN-
TIL THE STROKE OF
TWELVE... WHEN THE
LIVING SLEEP... AND
THE DEAD ARE
READY TO STIR!

YOU CHATTERING IDIOTS...
DO YOU THINK I CAN BE
DISPENSED WITH **THAT**
EASILY? WANDER AS YOU
WILL... SEARCH AMONG THE
TOMBS... **SEE** IF YOU CAN MAKE
THE DEAD WALK WITHOUT
ME!



TOWARD
MIDNIGHT.

HAA... THEY'RE FOLLOWING ME... THINK-
ING I'LL LEAD THEM TO A CORPSE!
BUT **THIS** IS THE HOUR WHEN I CAN
SENSE WHERE TO FIND THAT IMPRINT
... WHEN I CAN GET BACK MY
FACE... AND TRICK **THEM**
INTO SEIZING SOMEONE
WHO'S **ALIVE!**

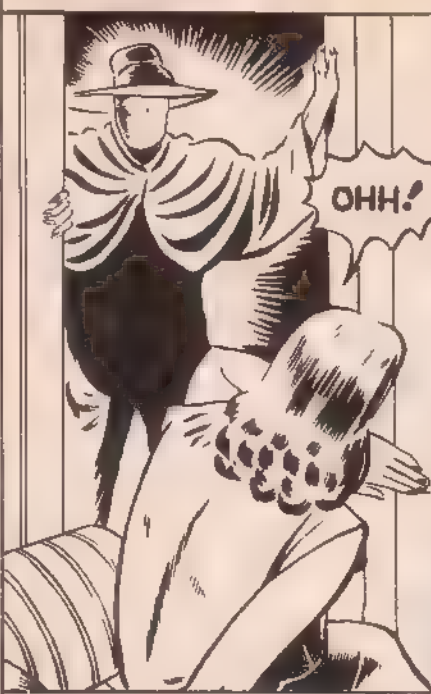
MINUTES LATER...AT NED'S HOME ...

THAT SLAB OF CEMENT
SHOULD HAVE HARDENED
BY NOW, ANN! I'LL BE
RIGHT BACK!

DON'T TAKE
TOO LONG, DAR-
LING! I FEEL
JUMPY EVERY SEC-
OND I'M ALONE!



THEN, AS NED'S FOOTSTEPS
FADE OUT ALONG THE
CORRIDOR ...



STEP
BY
STEP...
WATCH...LISTEN! LISTEN...
WATCH! YOUR PULSE WILL
FADE...YOUR EYES GROW
GLASSY...YOU WILL PLAY THE
PART OF A WALKING CORPSE!



SUDDENLY...

ANN...I HEARD
YOU SCREAM
JUST AS I GOT
UPSTAIRS!
WHAT'S
WRONG?



SHE'S IN A TRANCE! I
DON'T LIKE THIS...AND I
DON'T LIKE THE SOUND
OF THOSE PLODDING
FOOTSTEPS ON THE
FRONT PORCH!

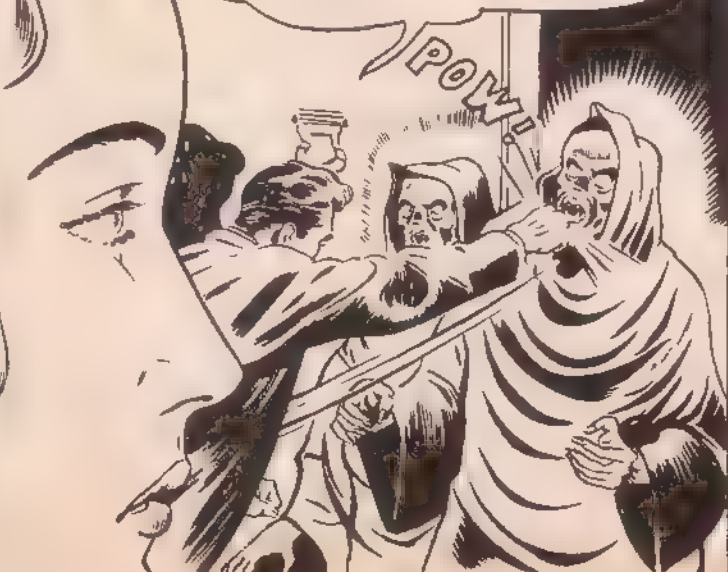


A CORPSE! I SAW
HER...I CLAIM HER...
SHE'S MINE!

GREAT GUNS!



ANN! FOR THE LOVE OF HEAVEN...
IF YOU CAN HEAR ME, MOVE...
RUN!



WHAM!



THEN...IN A JOSTLING RUSH OF HORROR...



MINE...
MINE!

NO! **MY** LIFELESS HAND
TOUCHED HER COLD BODY
FIRST! SHE IS THE NEW
VICTIM...AND I AM THE NEW
ZOMBIE!

AS THE UNDEAD FACE OFF WITH THEIR HELPLESS
CAPTIVE...



AN ORDINARY HUMAN
HASN'T MUCH OF A CHANCE
AGAINST THOSE FIENDS--
BUT I'M NOT GOING
TO LET THEM
TAKE HER!

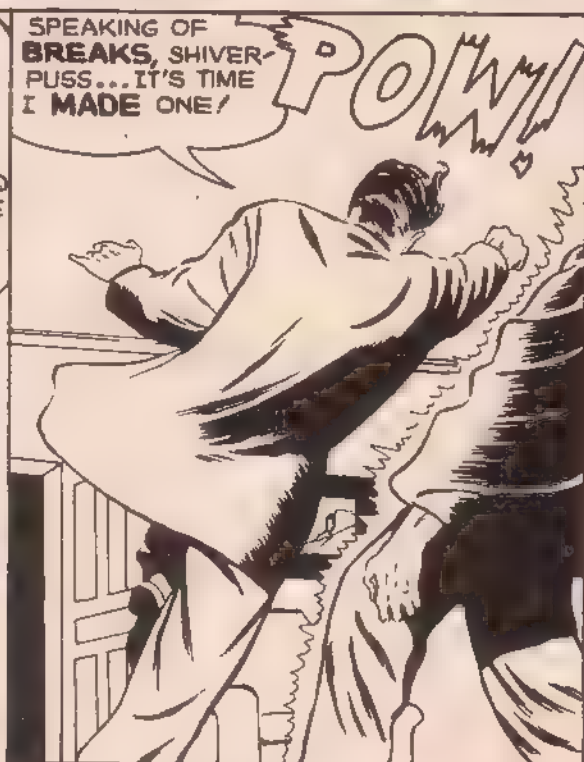
HA HA HA!



YE GODS! I
WOULD HAVE
EXPECTED
SOMETHING
LIKE THIS...IF
I'D KNOWN YOUR FACE
HAD CHANGED INTO A
GAPING BLANK!

CAN YOU GUESS
WHY? CAN YOU
GUESS WHY I'M
HERE?

THERE IS ONLY ONE THING A
ZOMBIE MUST AVOID...HAVING
HIS FEATURES TRAPPED IN A
LIFELIKE IMAGE! WHEN
THAT HAPPENS, HE LOSES
BOTH HIS FACE AND HIS
CONTROL OVER THE UNDEAD
HE COMMANDS...UNLESS HE
FINDS AND DESTROYS THE
IMAGE BEFORE THE BREAK
OF DAWN!



SPEAKING OF
BREAKS, SHIVER-
PUSS...IT'S TIME
I **MADE ONE!**

POW!

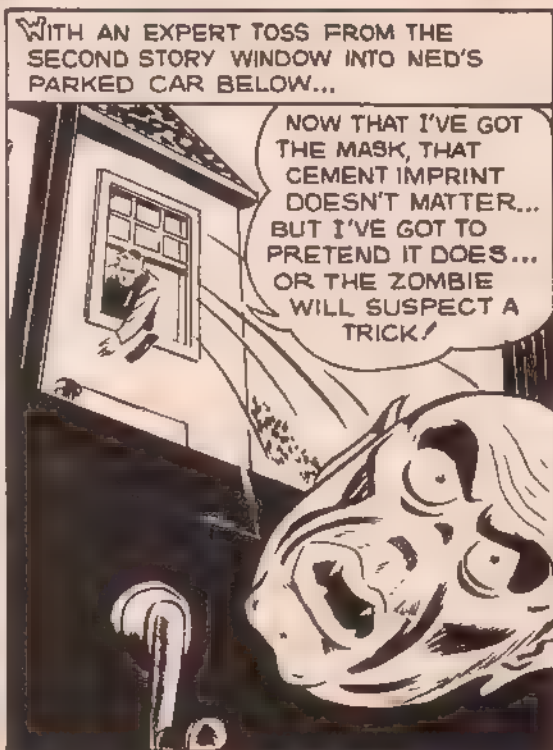


THE DOOR WON'T HOLD FOR
MORE THAN A FEW SECONDS
AGAINST A THING LIKE **THAT...**
BUT I MAY HAVE TIME FOR A
DESPERATE GAMBLE... THE
ONE THING THAT'LL SAVE ANN
FROM THOSE DEMONS!



THE PLASTIC HASN'T QUITE SET
...BUT IT'LL BE JUST WHAT I
NEED...A MASK ELASTIC
ENOUGH TO FIT OVER MY
HEAD!

THUD!



WITH AN EXPERT TOSS FROM THE
SECOND STORY WINDOW INTO NED'S
PARKED CAR BELOW...

NOW THAT I'VE GOT
THE MASK, THAT
CEMENT IMPRINT
DOESN'T MATTER...
BUT I'VE GOT TO
PRETEND IT DOES...
OR THE ZOMBIE
WILL SUSPECT A
TRICK!

A SECOND LATER...

YOU HAVEN'T GOT YOUR FACE **YET**, RAT! THIS TIME I'M GOING OUT THE WINDOW...AND MY CAR'S RIGHT BELOW!

FOOL! DO YOU THINK EVEN WALLS OF STEEL COULD WITH-
STAND ME?

DEATH IS A GOOD DEAL CLOSER THAN YOUR CAR! BUT FIRST... I WANT THIS!

GOOD LORD... HE'S GOT BACK HIS FACE!

HA HA! THIS TIME I'LL KEEP IT... FOREVER!

CRASH!

ARE YOU SURE A REVOLTING MUSH LIKE THAT CAN STAND UP UNDER WEAR AND TEAR, BUB?

I TOLD YOU DEATH WAS CLOSE! BEFORE I LEAVE TO REGAIN CONTROL OVER THE BAND OF THE UNDEAD...YOU ARE GOING TO BE A **CORPSE**... A CORPSE I CAN SUMMON TO OUR MIDST TO **PROVE** MY MASTERY!

GO AHEAD, CREEP... BUT YOU'D BETTER EXPECT FAR MORE THAN A **CORPSE**!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN? SPEAK... UNLESS YOU WANT TO BE STRANGLLED **SLOWLY**!

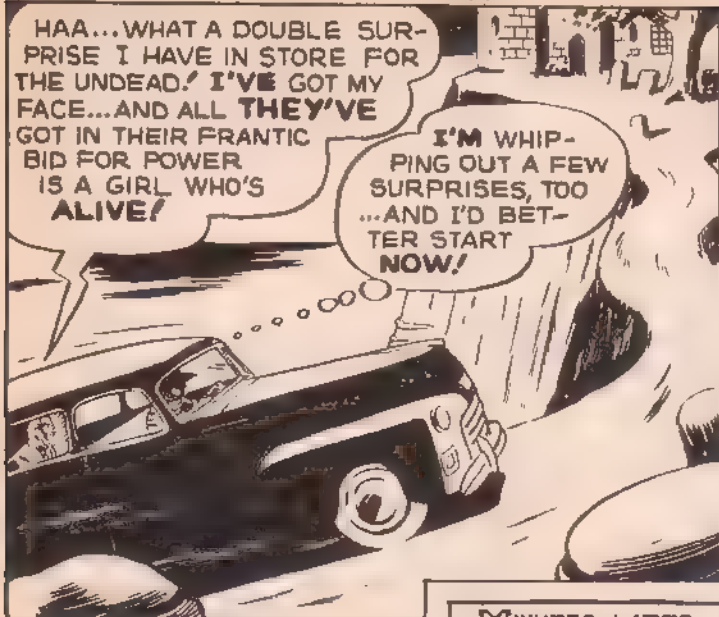
I'VE GIVEN THE POLICE AN EXACT DESCRIPTION OF YOUR COSTUME...YOU'LL BE **WATCHED** FROM A HUNDRED DOORWAYS AND WINDOWS EVERY YARD OF THE WAY! MAYBE THEY **WON'T** BE ABLE TO KILL YOU WHEN THEY CLOSE IN...BUT THEY'LL KEEP YOU AND THE UNDEAD BESIEGED... UNTIL **SCIEN-TISTS** FIND A WAY TO DO IT!

SO THE POLICE EXPECT TO FIND ME SLINKING THROUGH THE STREETS, EH? BUT HOW MUCH WILL THEY NOTICE IF WE CHANGE CLOTHES ...AND YOU **DRIVE** ME TO OUR MEETING PLACE?

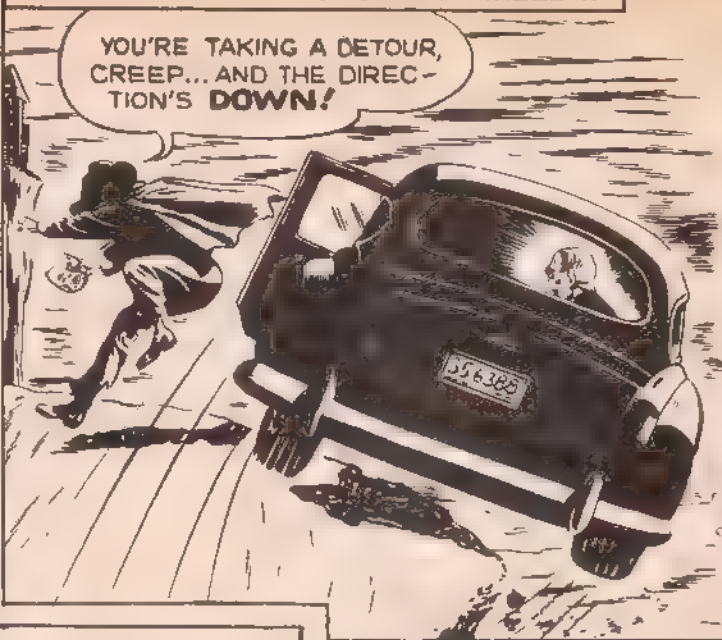
I'M GETTING TIRED OF BEING PUSHED AROUND BY THIS HYENA, BUT HE'S TAKEN THE BAIT... EXACTLY AS I PLANNED!

GET IN! AND REMEMBER...I'LL BE SITTING RIGHT BEHIND YOU...**MY HANDS WITHIN INCHES OF YOUR THROAT!**

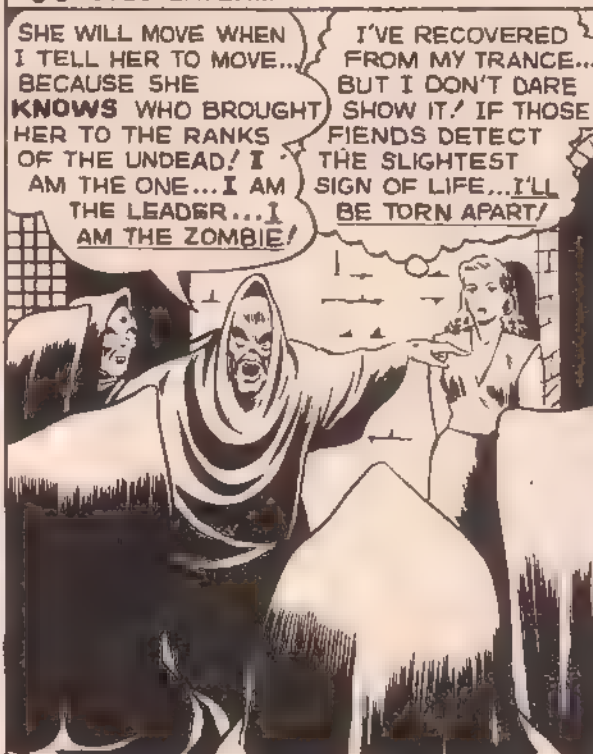
SOON AFTERWARD...WITH THE ZOMBIE'S LAIR
REARING ON A BROODING HILLTOP...



WITH A SHARP WRENCH OF THE WHEEL...

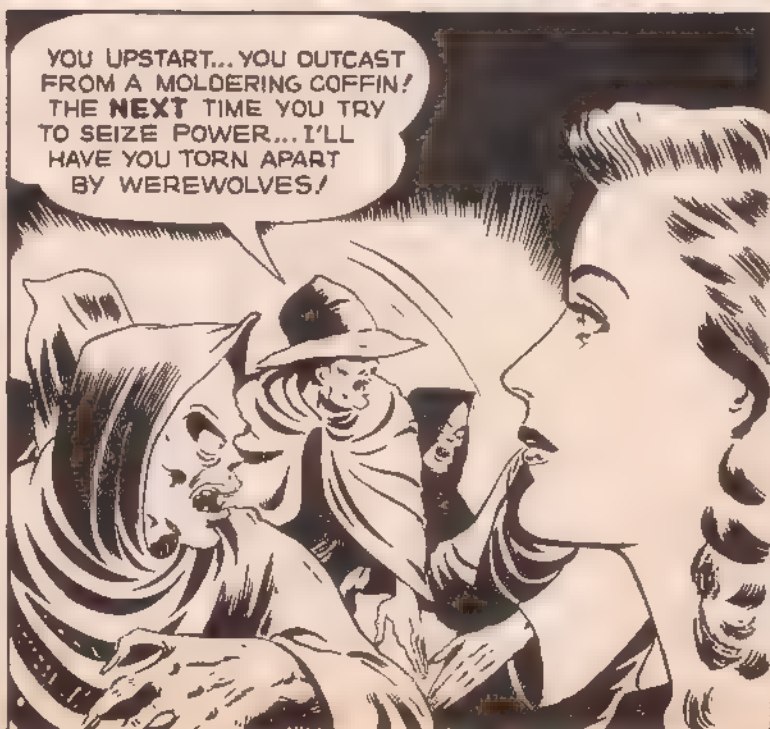


MINUTES LATER...



SUDDENLY...FROM THE
DARKENED DOORWAY...

HONEY, THIS IS ME...**NED!**
NO MATTER WHAT YOU
THINK YOU SEE...FOR
PETE'S SAKE, DON'T BUDGE
...**UNTIL I CLAP MY
HANDS!**



YOU ARE THE MASTER...I WILL OBEY! BUT IF I AM STILL ONE OF THE UNDEAD... HOW COULD THE CORPSE HEAR MY SUMMONS... WHAT MADE THE CORPSE WALK?

BECAUSE YOU'VE BEEN TRICKED... BY THE ONE SCIENTIST IN THE WORLD WHO CAN DESTROY US! THE GIRL'S A DECOY WHOSE SUBCONSCIOUS WILL IS LEADING HIM HERE... AND HE'LL BE ARRIVING ANY MOMENT... DISGUISED AS ME!

NO...NO! HOW CAN THERE BE A SUBCONSCIOUS WILL...IN A CORPSE?

THAT'S JUST IT, YOU HAREBRAINED HORRORS...SHE ISN'T A CORPSE! SHE'S MERELY HYPNOTIZED... AND ALIVE!

AWAKE FROM YOUR TRANCE! SHOW THESE UNBURIED DOGS THE FATAL BLUNDER THEY'VE MADE!

CLAP! OH!

NOW SHE WILL DIE, ZOMBIE!

YES...WE WILL KILL THEM BOTH! I AM CLAIMING THE GIRL AS MINE... WHILE YOU PROVE YOUR WORTH BY SHOWING THE IMPOSTOR WHAT THE UNDEAD CAN DO! GIVE HIM NO CHANCE TO STRIKE...THE MOMENT HE ENTERS...REND HIM LIMB FROM LIMB!

SECONDS LATER...

YOU FOOLS...IS THIS THE WELCOME I GET? SPEAK...WHERE IS THE GIRL?

LISTEN, TRICKSTER! PERHAPS YOU WILL HEAR HER DEATH CRY...AN INSTANT BEFORE YOUR OWN RISES FROM YOUR THROTTLED THROAT!

STOP... STOP!

SCIENCE GAVE YOU OUR MASTER'S FACE, SWINDLER...BUT CAN IT SAVE YOUR LIFE?

AT THE HEIGHT OF THE GRISLY SPECTACLE

OH, NED! THEY'RE TEARING HIM APART...AND I HOPE I NEVER SEE ANYTHING MORE HIDEOUS THAN THAT!

YOU WOULD HAVE, HONEY...IF THAT MONSTER HAD BEEN PERMITTED TO SURVIVE!

BUT WHAT ABOUT THE UNDEAD, NED...CAN ANYTHING STOP THEM?

THEY'RE FINISHED TOO, ANN... ALL OF THEM! WITH THE ZOMBIE DESTROYED, THE UNDEAD HAVE LOST THE POWER THAT RELEASED THEM FROM THE GRAVE... AND AT DAWN... THAT'S WHERE THEY'LL RETURN!

The END!

"I WANT A **SPECIAL** KIND OF STEEL FOR MY NEW CAR OF THE FUTURE...LIGHTER, STRONGER THAN ANY OTHER!" AND THAT'S WHAT JOHN KEMP GOT---A **VERY SPECIAL** KIND OF STEEL, STRONG, LIGHT AND---**ALIVE!** HE WAS TERRIFIED, OF COURSE---AND WE THINK YOU WILL SHARE HIS TERROR, WHEN YOU READ---

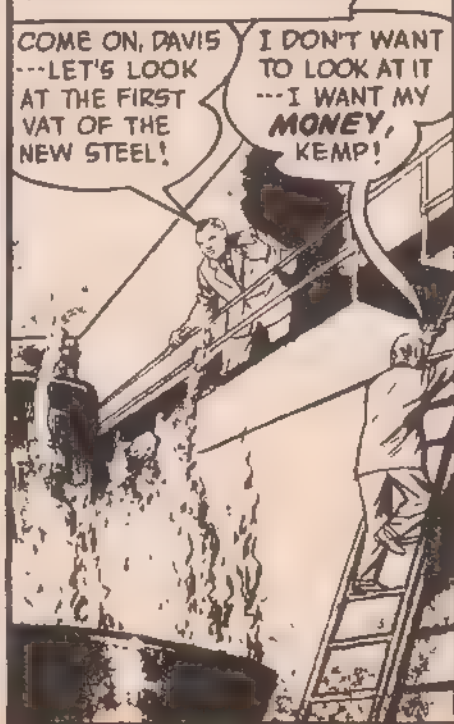
The SPIRIT *in the* STEEL!



HARRY DAVIS, INVENTOR, FINALLY GAVE KEMP WHAT HE WANTED---



TWO MONTHS LATER---



BUT DAVIS DIDN'T GET WHAT HE WANTED---



A FEW MONTHS LATER, THE FIRST CAR MADE WITH HARRY DAVIS' NEW STEEL---WAS TESTED---

I'VE NAMED IT THE "DAVIS SPECIAL" IN HONOR OF YOUR POOR FATHER, WHOSE UNTIMELY DEATH WAS SUCH A SHOCK TO ME!

THANKS, MR. KEMP!
IT WILL BE A MONUMENT TO DADDY!



BUT AS THE SLEEK MACHINE CAME AROUND THE TURN AGAIN, IT SWERVED---AND AN INVISIBLE POWER SENT IT HURTLING TOWARDS A GHASTLY VENGEANCE!

HELP!

LOOK OUT, MR. KEMP! IT'S GOING TO HIT YOU!



BLAST IT! THAT YOUNG IDIOT **WOULD** INTERFERE!

I---I CAN'T CONTROL IT!

WHEW! THAT WAS CLOSE!



SOMETHING **DIABOLICAL** ABOUT THAT CAR! IT SEEMED TO BE **TRYING** TO KILL ME!

TOO BAD IT'S A FAILURE, MISS DAVIS--- THE LEAST I CAN DO IS GIVE IT TO YOU!

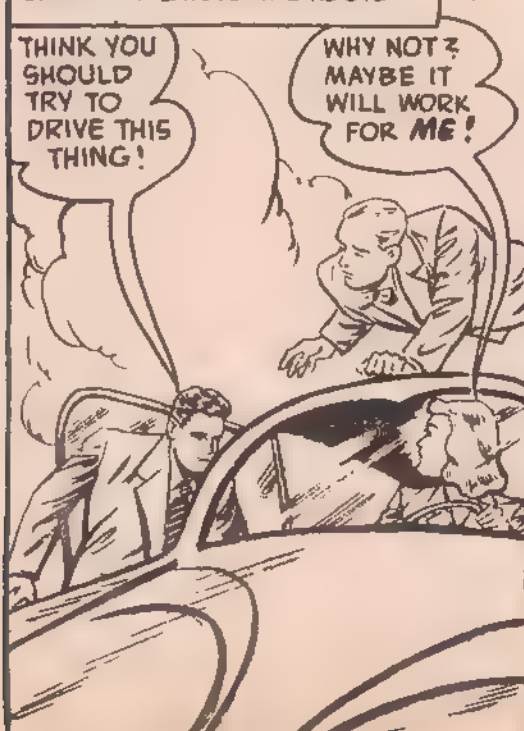
THANK YOU---YOU'RE VERY KIND!



LATER--WITH THE STRANGE, UNSEEN SPIRIT STILL HOVERING ABOVE---

THINK YOU SHOULD TRY TO DRIVE THIS THING!

WHY NOT? MAYBE IT WILL WORK FOR ME!



SUDDENLY--- THE CAR LURCHED FORWARD!

I MUST GET HER ALONE!

HEY! WHAT THE---!



IT---IT SEEMED TO DART FORWARD AS IF IT HAD A LIFE OF ITS NOW! I HOPE I CAN CATCH HER BEFORE SHE'S **KILLED!**



THE CHASE LED ONTO A DANGEROUS MOUNTAIN ROAD---

SUDDENLY JESS' BLOOD FROZE, AS---

I'M GAINING ON HER!

BETTER NOT TAKE THESE CURVES TOO FAST! I MIGHT HURT DEA!

HOLY SMOKE! IT LEAPED RIGHT OFF THE ROAD AS THOUGH IT WERE---ALIVE! I'LL NEVER CATCH HER NOW!



MILES AWAY, THE FANTASTIC VEHICLE HALTED---AND DEA GREW FAINT AT THE SOUND OF HER FATHER'S VOICE!

HEAR ME, MY DAUGHTER! I WAS MURDERED BY JOHN KEMP---AND CANNOT REST UNTIL I HAVE VENGEANCE! OTHERWISE, I AM DOOMED TO ROAM THE TWILIGHT WORLD FOREVER!



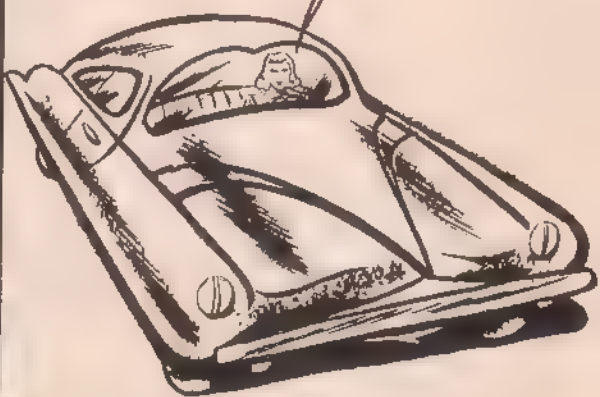
BUT MY SPIRIT IS IMPRISONED WITHIN THE STEEL OF THIS AUTOMOBILE! ONLY YOU CAN HELP ME!

WH-WHAT CAN I DO?



INVITE KEMP FOR A RIDE---TELL HIM THE CAR HAS BEEN PERFECTED---THEN I WILL TAKE OVER!

ALL RIGHT... I'LL DO IT!



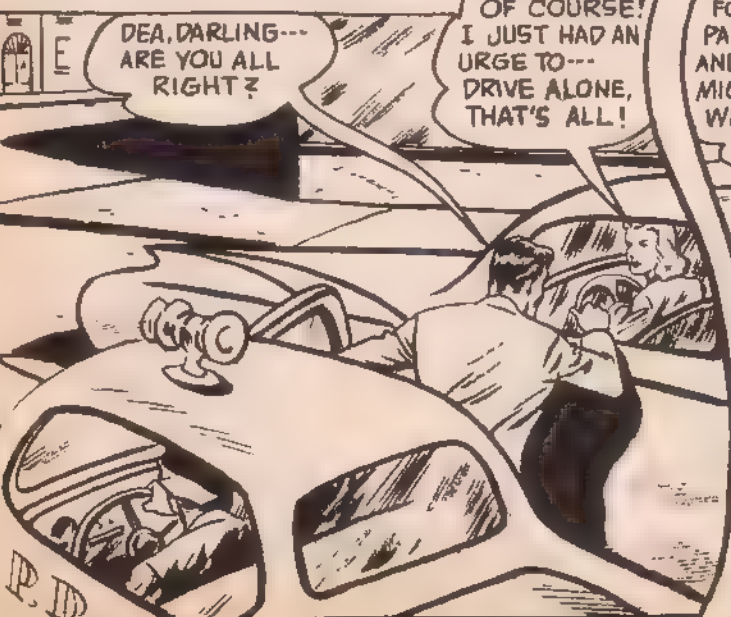
THE SPIRIT VOICE GREW STILL!---DEA DROVE BACK TO TOWN---TO BE MET BY JESS---

DEA, DARLING--- ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

OF COURSE! I JUST HAD AN URGE TO--- DRIVE ALONE, THAT'S ALL!

OKAY, YOU'RE HOME NOW ---WE CAN TALK! I FOLLOWED YOU PART OF THE WAY AND SAW SOMETHING MIGHTY STRANGE! WHAT REALLY HAPPENED?

I--- I MIGHT HAVE KNOWN I COULDN'T KEEP IT FROM YOU! COME INSIDE AND I'LL TELL YOU!



WHEN THE STORY IS TOLD...

...SO THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED! YOU...YOU PROBABLY THINK I'M CRAZY...

UH-UH... I BELIEVE YOU! AFTER ALL, DIDN'T I SEE THAT METAL MONSTER LEAP UP A THIRTY-FOOT CLIFF?

LOOK... THAT CAR'S DEADLY DANGEROUS AS LONG AS YOUR DAD'S SPIRIT IS IMPRISONED IN IT! WHY NOT RELEASE THE SPIRIT... **BY DESTROYING THE CAR?**

MEANWHILE, UNKNOWN TO BOTH, THE SATANIC MACHINE HAD ROLLED INTO THE DRIVEWAY!

AN AUTO-WRECKING PLACE COULD FINISH IT OFF!

THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK, MY LAD!

NEXT MOMENT, LIKE AN ARMY TANK, THE INFURIATED METAL MONSTER BATTERED ITS WAY THROUGH THE SIDE OF THE HOUSE!

IT HEARD US!

YES... AND THOSE WORDS SEAL YOUR **OWN DOOM!**

CRASH!

WITH ONLY SECONDS TO SPARE... ESCAPE!

IT'S BACKING OUT... **HURRY!**

MAKE FOR MY CAR... WE'LL TRY TO OUTSPEED IT!

A NIGHTMARE PURSUIT... WITH THE SPIRIT-CONTROLLED AUTO KNOCKING POLICE CARS FROM ITS PATH...

WE'RE SAFE! NOW LET'S HOPE THE POLICE BELIEVE US!

...THAT'S THE STORY... AND IT'S **TRUE!** BUT I HAVE A PLAN THAT MAY DEFEAT THAT GRISLY THING!

THE CAR ESCAPED TO THE HILLS, CHIEF!

I'LL HAVE TO TAKE A CHANCE, I GUESS... WHAT'S YOUR PLAN?

THE PLAN WAS A SIMPLE TRAP---WITH JOHN KEMP AS BAIT!

MR. KEMP---THERE'S A CHARGE AGAINST YOU REGARDING THE DEAD INVENTOR, HARRY DAVIS!

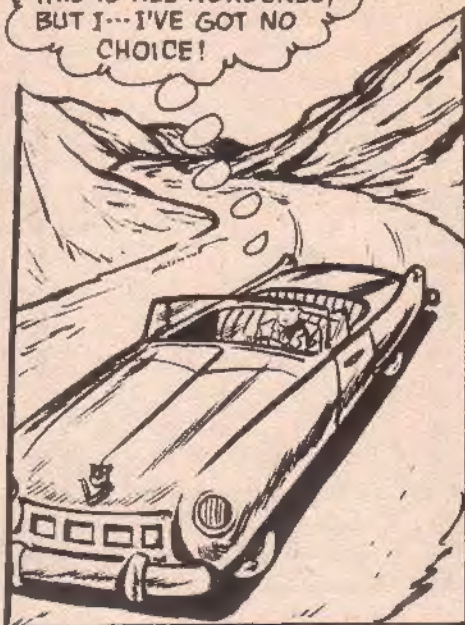
SO YOU KNOW, EH? I MIGHT AS WELL CONFESS, THEN---I **KILLED HIM!**

WE REALLY DIDN'T EXPECT A CONFESSION! NOW I NEEDN'T **ASK** YOU TO HELP US---I CAN **TELL** YOU!

WH-WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? **HOW** CAN I HELP YOU?

"**HOW**, MR. KEMP? EASY---JUST DRIVE ALONG THE MOUNTAIN ROADS IN YOUR CAR---

THIS IS ALL NONSENSE, BUT I---I'VE GOT NO CHOICE!



"---UNTIL THE SPIRIT OF DAVIS SEES YOU AND GIVES CHASE!"

IT'S TRUE---! THERE'S THE CAR---**COMING AFTER ME!**

NOW, KEMP---THERE'S NO ONE TO SAVE YOU! **HA-HA!**



"LEAD IT TO A WOODED SECTION, WHERE---

IT'S FORCING ME OVER THE CLIFF---**HELP!**



"---WE'LL BE WAITING---WITH A GIANT **LOADING MAGNET!**"

I'VE BEEN **TRICKED!**



HA! IT WORKED! AND KEMP'S STILL SAFE!

NICE WORK, JESS! NOW WE'LL HAVE IT MELTED DOWN---ALONG WITH HARRY DAVIS' SPIRIT! THE CASE IS **CLOSED!**



OH, NO IT ISN'T, CHIEF---NOT QUITE!

A FEW WEEKS LATER...

WELL, IT'S ALL OVER, SWEETHEART! THE CAR HAS BEEN MELTED BY MIDWEST ACCESSORIES, INC., AND USED TO MANUFACTURE HUNDREDS OF SMALL PRODUCTS! YOUR FATHER'S SPIRIT IS COMPLETELY HARMLESS!

BUT WHAT ABOUT JOHN KEMP? IS THAT MURDERER TO GO FREE?

I'M AFRAID SO! THERE WERE NO WITNESSES TO THE MURDER... AND KEMP HAS REPUDIATED THAT ORAL CONFESSION!

I'M ALMOST SORRY WE DIDN'T LET FATHER'S SPIRIT WREAK ITS OWN VENGEANCE!

MEANWHILE... KEMP, FREE ON BAIL, FIXES A TIRE, UNAWARE THAT HE IS BEING WATCHED BY SINISTER EYES...

NOW THAT DAVIS' SPIRIT IS DESTROYED, I GUESS MY WORRIES ARE OVER!

NOT YET, KEMP... BUT THEY SOON WILL BE!

---NOW---
JUST A LITTLE
HIGHER, KEMP
--- HIGHER ---
THAT'S
FINE!

HAH! MY
VENGEANCE
IS COMPLETE!

GRASH!

SNAP!

ARRGH!

AND AS THE FREE SPIRIT OF HARRY DAVIS WENT TO ITS LASTING REST... THE FINAL IRONIC NOTE WAS SPOKEN BY JOHN KEMP'S WIDOW...

I... I CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT! THAT WAS A BRAND NEW JACK... HE JUST BOUGHT IT TODAY FROM MIDWEST ACCESSORIES, INC!

THE
END!

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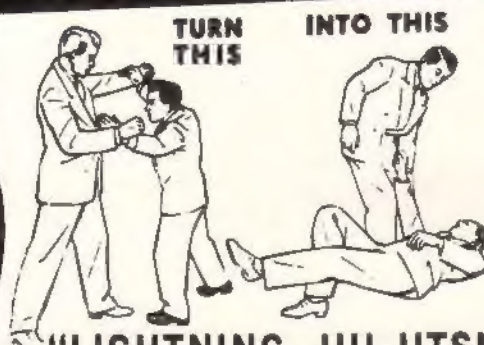
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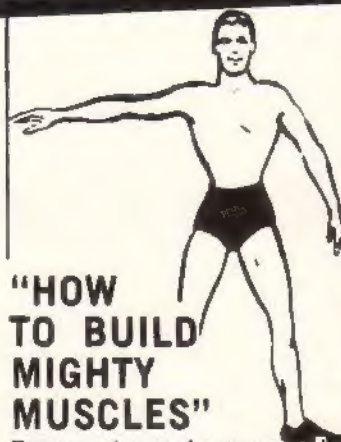
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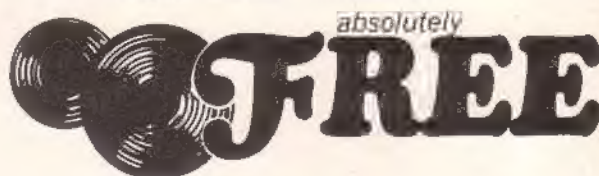
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